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September 2003

# HUB

**DIGITAL LIVING**

Volume 16 Number 10

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High-definition audio

## What I did on my summer vacation

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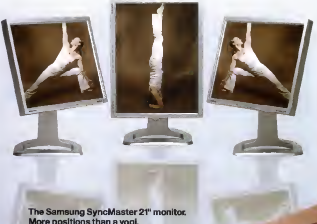

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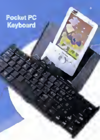
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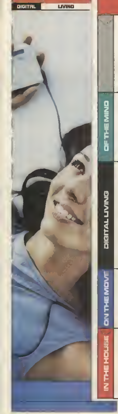
HUB

DIGITAL LIVING

# Contents

**September 2003**



**Letter from the Editor** 9

**First Glance** 9
A first look at new and notable digital devices

**Glossary: Wireless 101** 23

**CyberWalker: Rough Cuts** 30
Our man in Silicon Valley looks at portable video players.

## OF THE MIND

**What I did on my summer vacation** 10
Sharing your digital photos online

**The High End: Stuff you want to need** 12
For serious shooting get a digital single lens reflex camera

**A keyboard keyboard** 14
Prodikeys a cool tool for budding musicians

## DIGITAL LIVING

**Would you like WiFries with that?** 16
Wireless Web access hits fast food restaurants

**Home life under a microscope** 17
Philips' HomeLab studies technologies we may be living with tomorrow

**Getting personal** 19
Online dating site sees boom in Canadians seeking mates

**Technology rescues the duffer** 22
Golf-training system uses virtual reality modelling

**Digital dollars** 27
Online banking in Canada hits its stride

## ON THE MOVE

**A game in the hand** 18
Addictive handheld games for Palm OS and Pocket PCs

**I want my MP3** 20
A handful of portable audio options and accessories

## IN THE HOUSE

**Me and my PVR** 24
Personal video recorders change the way we watch TV

**Who is BenQ?** 25
A review of BenQ's 46 inch plasma TV

**The next revolution** 26
Two high definition audio formats begin battle

# Editorial

Megan Johnston

## Shifting ground

When HUB: Digital Living was conceived, we recognized the shift that has been going on for some time — the march of computing technology out of the office and into almost every other area of our lives.

Though the personal computer retains a central role, it is no longer the only gateway to the digital world, and the workplace is no longer the predominant place in which we use digital content. Today, we play, create, communicate, and entertain with digital images, sounds, and video, and through digital channels.

Manufacturers that built their business and reputation on the personal computer have led this shift. Notable, recent examples include Dell, which officially dropped Computers from its name to reflect its move from PC maker to a supplier of a broader range of products, Gateway, which unveiled a wide range of consumer electronics, including plasma TVs and home theatres, and Hewlett-Packard, which delivered a fall line of consumer products that promise to "radically simplify technology" and target the growing digital photography and entertainment markets. As well, retailers that specialized in computers in the past have been offering more digital devices — MP3 players, digital cameras, and PDA/phone combinations — that users may never have to connect to a PC to operate.

What does this mean for you? You can expect to see more and more products and services competing for your digital lifestyle dollar. In HUB: Digital Living, we'll help you get the most out of the digital technology you choose to use, offering you buying advice, product reviews, and a chronicle of the way people interact with their digital world.

## Team HUB

I've used "we" a lot in this editorial because putting this has been a team effort. The public face of the magazine is its editors: Nestor Gula, who developed the concept for HUB and was Editor of Toronto Computes!, Sean Carruthers, who helmed The Computer Paper's test lab, and who will continue to oversee our product reviews, Sharlene Myers, who has been Assistant Editor of The Computer Paper and Editor of Vancouver Computes!, and Jessica Malone, who becomes Editor of HUBcanada.com after overseeing CanadaComputes.com. Behind the scenes are Art Director Steve Stoner, Graphic Designer Chris Brockley, and Marketing Manager Natalia Nossovskaia, who have put in many long hours and played a key role in getting this magazine off the ground.

Jessica Malona

Nestor Gula

The debut of HUB: Digital Living also marks the departure of Canada Computer Paper Inc.'s Editorial Director David Tanaka, who is retiring. Luckily for us, he thinks "retirement" means lots of new projects and continuing to contribute to HUB. We'll miss seeing and talking to David on a daily basis, but look forward to including his enthusiastic take on digital technology with our readers for a long time to come.

Sean Carruthers

Sharlene Myers

### Letter of the month contest

As an incentive to get you to fire up your email and tell us what you think of HUB: Digital Living, Fujifilm Canada is giving away a digital camera for the best letter of the issue. The camera is its new pocket-size Fuji FinePix A205, a 2.0 megapixel model, with 3x Zoom, and 1.5-inch colour LCD monitor for reviewing shots and navigating the commands. So, be creative and drop us a line at **letters@hubcanada.com**

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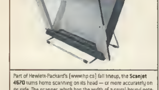
# First glance

***A preview of new and notable digital devices. Look for full reviews in upcoming issues of HUB: Digital Living.***



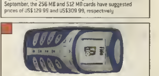
Part of Hewlett-Packard's (www hp ca) fall lineup, the **Scanjet 4670** turns home scanning on its head — or more accurately on its side The scanner, which has the width of a spiral-bound notebook, can sit flat on a desk or on its side in a holder to save space. It has a transparent cover (allowing you to check the alignment of your document or photo — very clever), and a scanning area of 8 5x11 in Larger items can be scanned in sections then "stitched" to gether using the included panorama software on the computer Speaking of which, the Scanjet 4760 is compatible with Windows (98 Me, XP, and 2000) and Mac OS (9 1 and OS 10 1.5 and higher) computers It has a scanning resolution of 2,400 dots per inch and 48 bit colour It retails for $279 99

Dust off your videotapes! HP's new **DVD Movie Writer dc3000** simplifies transferring video to DVD According to HP, you connect your VCR or analogue video camera to the dc3000 and push Record, and your VHS (or Hi8, Digital 8, Mini DV, or Betamax) is saved to a DVD For more creative types, it comes with video-editing software, so you can add titles, credits, soundtracks, and effects to your video before saving to disc. The dc3000 uses DVD+R/+RW discs and also functions as a CD reader and writer, so it can be used to make and play audio discs, save digital photo collections, and back up computer data The dc3000 will be available in mid-September for $499

For more new product news, go to www.HUBcanada.com

In this issue we look at the 128 MB WeWa WMP 310+ (Page 20), a combination MP3 player/voice recorder/memory key At press time, its distributor Acca Group, announced the introduction of new WeWa players to the Canadian market Among them, the **WeWe Armory**, which adds an FM receiver, downloadable games, and 256 MB of memory. The Armery is about double the width of the WMP-310+ player Despite its larger size Acca says it can run for 24 hours on a single AA battery. Not bad for $259

The line between digital cameras, audio players, cell phones, and PDAs has become very blurry of late As these devices get more features, they need more memory — and if it's faster and smaller, all the better Hearing this cry, memory maker, SanDisk Corp (www sandisk com) has beefed up its Memory Stick line with the new PRO Duo memory cards, which are a third the size of standard Memory Sticks The **PRO Duo** cards are for multimedia devices, such as audio players digital and still cameras, and new multi-tasking PDAs, including the Sony Ericsson P800 They use MagicGate technology, which means faster data transfer, higher capacity, and built in security Expected to be available in September, the 256 MB and 512 MB cards have suggested prices of US$129 99 and US$309 99, respectively



Just in time for the shorter days of fall, **Fido** (www fido.ca) has added the Nokia 5100, which has a built-in flashlight, to its stable of cell phones. Despite its usefulness for us soon to be-day light-deprived northerners, the Web enabled phone was actually designed for the active outdoorsy set, with a built-in thermometer, calorie counter, integrated FM radio, and speakerphone It's also more dust and bump resistant than standard phones, according to Fido As with most cell phones, its cost varies depending on the service plan you sign up for That said, Fido is selling the 5100 for $250 (in conjunction with an activation rebate and promotional discount)

# What I did on my summer vacation

## *HOW TO: Share your digital photos online with friends and family in faraway places*

One of the best things about taking photos is sharing them, whether it's to remember a special event or to embarrass your children when they finally bring a special friend home for dinner. This is where digital photography shines — anxious grandparents can now have bragging pictures of a newborn grandchild within hours of birth, even if they live halfway around the world.

But sharing photos over the Internet isn't problem free. As picture resolution increases on digital cameras, file sizes get bigger as well, becoming cumbersome to handle as email attachments. And, honestly, while I'm sure all your friends would love to look at the 50 photos you took on your Caribbean vacation, they might not want their own copies to download over their dial-up connection. So, it's best to learn a few tricks to spruce up your digital photo etiquette. There are plenty of win-win options for sharing your photos that make things easier for sharers and sharees alike.

**Find your purpose**

Determining the best way to share your photos requires some serious thought about what you think your viewers will want to do with them (and what you want them to be able to do). There are many Web sites that allow you to upload photos and display them in slideshows or albums. Most of them also offer printing services, so for example, Grandma can decide which pictures she likes and order prints sent to her directly, or even get one printed on a coffee mug for the office. Before you upload, check out the options on several sites, as they can be quite different and some will be better suited for your purposes than others.

In some cases (London Drugs and Future Shop are examples), you don't need a digital camera to take advantage of online photo sharing — many film developers will upload developed pictures to their Web sites, which also serve as drop off points for digital photographers who want professional prints. Prints can usually be picked up at a local retail location, sometimes within the same day. Of course, the processors hope you'll email the link to all your friends and family — the more printing, the merrier. Some of these sites have time limits, so if you decide to use this option, make sure your viewers know how long they have to place their orders.

If your pictures are already digital, you have more options, and online picture archiving sites, such as Picturetrail or Yahoo Photo, may be more to your liking. Some of these offer a certain amount of storage for free, with the option of paying for more space. Some will allow a trial period before the subscription kicks in. At any rate, they need to make money somehow, so they often also offer printing services through partner companies, and there will likely be advertising on the site and on your photo page. Also, check the information and software that came with your digital camera or scanner — some manufacturers offer online storage and sharing options built-in. Some of these, like Sony's ImageStation, are not limited to owners of the particular camera brands.

One other thing you might want to consider is the level of access and privacy. You may not want your family album viewed by anyone who stum-

### Notes on prepping photos

Have you ever clicked on a photo only to be treated to a magnified view of the top-left corner, from which you had to scroll across and down to see the subject? It's worse than watching a movie from three metres in front of a theatre screen — you can't really grasp the composition of the picture. If you suspect the photos you are posting online will be viewed more than printed, you'll probably want to reduce their size.

In your image editing software, look for commands such as resize, resample or resolution. While you generally need at least 200 dots per inch to produce a good print, 72 dpi looks perfectly good on screen and the pictures will load more quickly. Check the dimensions too — I found that setting the size to 640x480 pixels worked well for viewing on a 15-inch monitor. Larger pictures tended to spill off the screen. Reducing your file sizes also means you'll get more pictures into your storage space.

The JPEG picture format is the most common, displays well in Web browsers, and is compatible with virtually all image editing software and printers. It's also compressed, so it reduces file sizes. There is some loss in image quality compared to uncompressed formats, but it will not be noticeable to most people printing snapshots.

In converting the sizes and formats from the pictures imported from your camera or scanner, be sure to save the originals, so you can go back to them if you need them. Once you've reduced the size of a picture, you often can't increase it again without sharply reducing its quality — the data you've thrown away to reduce the file size is gone for good. Rename the new files and store them in a separate folder.

bles across it, so whatever service you decide to use, check the privacy options. Some require a password or access code for viewing that you would supply to those you were sharing your photos with. Others only allow access through links sent in email, preventing strangers from strolling in.

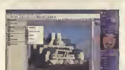
Most image hosting sites offer tutorials to show users how to upload photos, and some even offer their own software packages to make uploading smoother.

**A site of your own**

If you simply want a place to display your photos, you might already have one. Many Internet service providers include enough space for a personal Web site as part of their subscriptions, and with the right software, you can post photos online for viewing without having to write the site code yourself.

Quickie Web Albums, from LAJ Design (www.lajdesignsw.com), is available for Windows and Macintosh (OS X and 9.2) computers and offers a way of creating simple photo albums and publishing them on the Web. With properly prepared pictures (see sidebar for prepping tips), it's possible to set up an album in about half an hour. The company offers a 45 day trial of the software for free from its Web site, after which it costs US$23 to purchase. I used the Windows version.

Pictures can be imported into the album individually or in batches if you have all the images in one or more folders (hint, hint). Then it's simply a matter of writing the picture descriptions (writing times will vary depending on your creativity level), and choosing options such as watermarks, fonts, background colours, and the size of the thumbnail photos on the index page. Once it's ready, you select a folder to send it to and click Create. What


Source: MSN.ca

you end up with is a folder with the thumbnails, a folder with the original images, an index.html page that displays the thumbnails, and an HTML page for each image to display the larger versions. Transfer all of these to your Web space using an FTP program (see sidebar), and you have a photo album online — just email the link to all your friends and they can surf in like any other Web site.

If you want to tell a story along with your photos, you might want to consider a Weblog, also called a blog. Blogging software and services often allow pictures to be added to entries, though they may limit this privilege to certain subscription levels if you're posting to their servers and not hosting your own site. One of the advantages of a blog is that it can be interactive, so you get feedback on your postings.

One final note: Don't depend on online storage as the only storage for your photos. The terms of agreement for photo sites invariably state that the user is responsible for backup copies of photos. Sites go down and companies go out of business too regularly to take chances with photos, which are almost always irreplaceable once lost.

By Sharlene Myers

## Photosharing options

| Service | Web site | Free storage | Paid storage | Templates | Editing tools | Privacy options | Print ordering |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Black's Photography** | www.blackphotocentre.com.ca | Yes* | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **Future Shop** | www.futurephoto.ca | Yes* | n/a | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **London Drugs** | www.ldphotostation.com | Yes* | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **ImageStation** | www.imagestation.com | Yes | n/a | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **Ofoto** | www.ofoto.com | Yes | n/a | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **Picturetrail** | www.picturetrail.com | Yes* | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | Yes |
| **Wal-Mart** | www.walmartphotocentre.ca | Yes* | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **Yahoo** | ca.photos.yahoo.com | Yes* | n/a | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| **Typepad**** | www.typepad.com | No | Yes | Yes | No | Yes | No |

** Limits on duration and/or amount of free storage. See Web sites for details*

*** Primarily a Weblog service, but includes photo albums in premium accounts*

## Excuse me? FTP?

File Transfer Protocol (FTP) is a way of uploading and downloading files to and from a server on the Internet. In order to transfer files via FTP with as little trouble as possible, you'll need a software program called an FTP client. There are many of these available from software Web sites such as Tucows (www.tucows.com) and Download.com (www.download.com), and quite a few are offered as inexpensive shareware or freeware programs. Many of them operate much like your Windows folders — once you locate the files you need and their destination online, you can simply drag-and-drop or select them and click Upload.

In order to access your Web space, the FTP client software will ask for your username and password. If you've never accessed your space before and you don't know your username and password, your Web hosting company should be able to provide them for you.

## Easy does it

Those who subscribe to online services such as AOL Canada, MSN.ca, and .Mac already have what they need to share photos online: image editing software and templates for creating online slideshows and email greeting cards. MSN.ca and .Mac offer "services" only — users must have Internet access via an ISP. AOL Canada operates as an ISP but its service package can be purchased separately. The basic monthly fee for these services — which include various combinations of online storage, email, Web hosting, instant messaging, and parental controls — range from $13 to $14. All offer free trial periods to new subscribers.

## Coming this fall

**Pentax** (www pentaxcanada ca) will be introducing its own dSLR the istD in the coming weeks According to Pentax Canada, this 6 1-megapixel model will be lighter and more compact (510 g and 12 9x9 5x6 cm) than its competitors It will use Pentax K series lenses

**Olympus** (www olympus com) took a radically different approach with its E 1 It's a 5-megapixel digital SLR but rather than basing it on a 35 mm camera Olympus picked a new format called four-thirds The company developed a set of five lenses as well as a teleconverter and an external flash unit specifically for the E 1 camera

## Advantage Nikon:

### 12-18 mm D brings ultrawide to digital SLR

As mentioned in the main story, on a digital SLR with a sensor that's smaller than a film frame, you need to apply an adjustment factor to 35mm lenses to get the equivalent field of view with digital That helps telephoto performance but penalizes wide angle To address this Nikon introduced an ultra wide angle zoom just for digital SLRs Its 12 18 mm range translates into a very respectable 18-27 mm equivalent on a digital body For now, this gives Nikon the best wide-angle performance of the dSLR bunch

Pentax has announced a similar strategy, with a new DA lens series The first in this series is the DA Zoom 16-45mm which will be equivalent to 24 5-69 mm in 35 mm terms No date was given for availability

## Other things you can buy for $3,000

- A latte every day for 3 years
- 50-inch wide screen TV
- 1990 Cadillac in fair shape
- 250 to 300 rolls of film, plus processing
- At least 3,000 packages of KD

# The High End: Stuff you want to need

*For serious shooting, get a digital single lens reflex camera*

Nikon 12-18 mm D sample

Two years ago, I bought a Canon PowerShot G2 digital camera It's been great, but a single lens reflex it's not Now, after spending two months with digital SLR cameras from Canon (EOS 10D), Fujifilm (FinePix S2), and Nikon (D100), I can't go back I won't

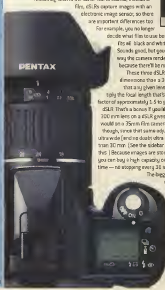
Why would anyone spend $2,500 to $3,000 on a camera? I'd make my arguments around one word performance Performance means no discernable shutter lag, seeing what the camera sees, lens selection limited only by your finances; lots of accessories

These are some of the reasons why the single lens reflex design itself has persisted for more than half a century They apply equally well to digital SLRs. If you have the technical skill and the artistic sense, you'll be able to use a dSLR without much relearning A lot is the same But of course, instead of film, dSLRs capture images with an electronic image sensor, so there are important differences too For example, you no longer decide what film to use because with digital, one image sensor fits all black and white, colour, fast, slow, indoor, outdoor Sounds good, but you also need to make sure you like the way the camera renders colours and tones from the get-go because there'll be no swapping sensors later

These three dSLRs use image sensors that have smaller dimensions than a 35mm film frame so the field of view that any given lens captures is smaller You need to multiply the focal length that's printed on the lens by an adjustment factor of approximately 1 5 to get the equivalent focal length on a dSLR That's a bonus If you like to shoot with a telephoto, because a 300 mm lens on a dSLR gives the same field of view that a 450 mm would on a 35mm film camera Wide-angle performance sucks, though, since that same adjustment factor applied to your 20 mm ultra wide (and no doubt ultra expensive) lens renders it to a pedestrian 30 mm (See the sidebar Advantage Nikon for one solution to this ) Because images are stored on memory cards rather than film, you can buy a high capacity card and shoot hundreds of images at a time — no stopping every 36 shots to change rolls

The biggest difference, though, is in what you do with the images once you've taken them Working with a digital image is as much a computer process as a photographic one and on the whole it is utterly different than working in a chemical darkroom To my mind it's a transition worth making, and that's all the more true now that I've used a dSLR

By David Tanake



The IstD, Pentax's dSLR

# The not so high end:

*Affordable digital camera options*

Not ready to cash in your child's college fund to get into digital photography? No worries Here are a few new high-quality digital cameras that won't clean out your pocketbook

**HP Photosmart 435 and 635**
**Estimated price: US$149 (435); US$179 (635)**
These models differ in resolution and lenses 3 1 effective megapixels and 5X digital zoom for the 435 and 2 megapixels and 3X optical and 4X digital zoom for the 435 Both feature Instant Share (for setting up an email list within the camera to streamline the process of sending pictures) and are compatible with HP's Photosmart 8886 dock ($129), which connects to the TV as well as a PC

**Sony Cyber-shot DSC-U50**
**Estimated price: US$250**
Sony's 2 megapixel Cyber-shot U has a rotating lens that allows for self-portraits Also notable pre flash metering and adjustable flash levels And, last but not least, if you're tired of black and silver, it comes in metallic orange

**Canon PowerShot A80**
**Suggested list price: $750**
As reflected in its price, this 4-megapixel camera with 3X optical zoom offers a few more fancy features the Intelligent Orientation Sensor (automatically rotates vertical shots) and support for PictBridge (direct printing from camera to compatible printers via USB)

Advertisement

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## Emagic is the domain of the pros

The recent release of Emagic's Logic Audio Platinum 6 marks a significant step forward in computer-based recording Designed for the professional recording engineer or musician this program has great power and features (and a price to go with them $997) Although it's still a handful for someone with no home recording experience this version of Logic has a Setup Assistant that eases you into the program A revised Arrange window new video features, a computer resource manager that makes playback smoother and a host of audio-editing tool enhancements make this the program to have if you are a serious recording musician

**Read the full review at www.hubcanada.com/music/emagic6.**

## Keyboards and computers

If you have a electronic keyboard manufactured in the last 20 years chances are it has MIDI MIDI stands for Musical Instrument Digital Interface which lets keyboards and other electronic musical instruments talk with each other Using a special soundcard (such as Creative Labs Audigy 2 Platinum) that has MIDI ports built into it or external MIDI cables (the MIDI Cable Pack from Voyetra for example) that connect to your computer soundcard's game port, any MIDI equipped keyboard will work with a PC

Once the keyboard is connected to your PC, you have an amazing amount of power The PC has General MIDI and gives you 128 standard preset sounds plus a whole bunch of percussion sounds Once a MIDI track is recorded it can be edited to remove mistakes or to just change the sounds

# A keyboard keyboard

*Prodikeys a cool tool for budding musicians*

This is perhaps the coolest thing that has happened to the ubiquitous computer keyboard in a long time There have been other stunning innovations — curvy, split, adjustable, colourful — but combining one with a piano keyboard has never been done . until now

The folks at Creative, the makers of Sound Blaster sound cards and the Nomad jukebox, have combined a piano keyboard with a computer keyboard — an elegant marriage that works

The computer keyboard is a standard PC keyboard with everything exactly where it should be There's an opaque plastic cover over the piano keys that serves as a wrist rest. It's a very comfortable keyboard to use But the main point of the Prodikeys is the piano keyboard It consists of 37 "mini" keys that make up a keyboard with a three octave range The keys have a plastic feel to them but seem solid The keyboard has a Pitch Bend wheel and a Volume wheel in the handle on the upper left side of the unit

There are strap holders that accommodate a regular guitar strap With this in place, you can walk around playing music or writing a report — the PS/2 connector cord is about 3 m (9 ft ) long, allowing you to wander a bit (Wearing the Prodikeys made me feel a bit like that geeky Harold from The Red Green Show, so I keep it on my desk )

After installing the Prodikeys software and attaching the keyboard to your PC, launching the music software is just a matter of hitting the large Fun button located near the Pitch Bend and Volume wheels Once launched, you can start playing in one of four modes Impress, Easy Play, Learn, or Perform

The Impress mode lets you create music without knowing much about music. The Easy Play mode lets you play music with lots of help from the computer Learn mode teaches you how to play different songs Perform mode gives you more control over what you play.

The Prodikeys is fun to use The software has a great interface that is easy to use and non-threatening. You can record everything you play by just clicking the record button

There is not much wrong with this combination keyboard and software package The one thing I did find wanting was the volume wheel, which controls the general volume of everything being played I would have preferred that it only control the volume of what's played on the keyboard, with a separate control for the accompaniment. You can adjust the balance between the keyboard and accompaniment in the software, but not on the fly

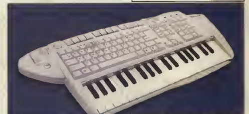
The Prodikeys and its software make a great tool for beginning musicians, and one that you won't outgrow quickly. I tested it with several entry-level and high end music recording software packages, and they all read the MIDI information generated by the Prodikeys keyboard

At a retail price of about $140, the Prodikeys is a bargain.

By Nestor Gula

### Infobox

**Prodikeys**
**Creative (www creative com)**
Retail price $139 99
Requires a PC with 233 MHz or higher processor running Windows (98SE/Me/2000/XP), 64 MB RAM (128 MB recommended), 325 MB free hard-disk space, a sound card (Sound Blaster sound card included), CD ROM drive, speakers or headphones, and an Internet connection for downloading additional features



Prodikeys: a tuneful two-in-one keyboard.

# Multi-task performer

The LG Super CD/DVD ReWriter covers all the bases, delivering versatility and reliability for your information storage requirements Another power-packed performer from the world's award winning, number one manufacturer of storage drives Featuring LG's buffer underrun prevention technology the Super Multi truly multi-tasks a DVD Recorder, DVD-R and DVD-RW (4 7GB), DVD-ROM drive and DVD RAM. In addition, it's also a CD-ROM drive and CD-RW LG's Super CD/DVD ReWriter, because performance is everything

www.lg.ca

[illegible]

## WiFi for free

Road warriors and technophiles who regularly use wireless Internet hotspots have traditionally paid dearly for the convenience Canadian company Wireless Friendly (www wireless-friendly com) says given that WiFi capabilities cost less than $0 20 per hour to operate once the initial setup expenses have been paid charging up to $9 per hour for access is gouging of the worst kind

The company has the idea that consumers can still satiate their desire to go online without draining their bank accounts, using the company's free HotSpotz access points in select establishments

The catch? Before going online users have to watch one minute of advertisements streamed from a local server for every hour of wireless access While the company has plans to expand nationwide for now only select Toronto coffee shops currently house HotSpotz access points

The benefits of free WiFi access according to the company, are four-fold users don't have to pay for access, establishments get customers with some extra cash to spend since they're saving on connection fees local advertisers get a very targeted and captive audience and Wireless Friendly makes money from advertisements in the process

**Hot spot locators**
**www wififreespot com/can html**
**www.hotspotlist.com/ca/**
**www wi-fiplanet.com/**

## Factoid:

A predominant theory is that the Big Mac McDonald's signature triple-decker sandwich was named after Maurice (Mac) McDonald He and his brother Dick opened the first McDonald's in 1937 before it was taken national by Ray Kroc Naming the sandwich after Mac as opposed to his brother was probably a smart business move

# Would you like WiFries with that?

***Wireless access in coffee shops, hotels, transportation hubs, and blanketing areas where road warriors congregate seems natural, but how will wireless access in fast food restaurants fare?***

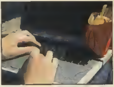
The concept of having access to the Internet everywhere you go isn't exactly new, but it has certainly started to get the attention of the hospitality industry

The Canadian arm of McDonald's, for example, is running a test in two of its restaurants, both of which are in the greater Toronto area, offering wireless Internet access over WiFi (wireless fidelity) to customers who ask for it and who spend a minimum of $3 in the restaurant Diners need a laptop or handheld computer with this wireless technology built in or added in the form of a WiFi card

McDonald's hopes to have 10 Canadian WiFi restaurants in its test run by the end of the year, with more in the Toronto area as well as in Vancouver and Montreal

It's a safe bet that technology is reaching mass acceptance when this fast food mogul is offering it to customers Though you have to wonder if consumers, no matter how tech-savvy they may be, are ready to accept the idea of a wired (or wireless, more accurately) fast food establishment

McDonald's has tried its share of technology gimmicks to attract busy business people with varying degrees of success Most recently, it tried to entice cell phone owners by offering call-in service where users could phone in an order and pick it up at a designated time Never mind the fact that McDonald's already built its legacy by drastically cutting down the time consumers wait for hot food, and a frustrating bout of button pushing trying to navigate a touch-tone menu just isn't worth the extra minute or two that phoning in an order "saves"



Let's compare and contrast accessing the Internet wirelessly in a fast food restaurant versus a more established WiFi hotspot like a coffee shop

By Andrew Moore-Criepin

| Coffee shop | Advantage | Fast food |
|---|---|---|
| Sip a cup of coffee while surfing | Coffee shop | Sip three cups of coffee while using the Internet one cup doesn't meet the $3 minimum |
| Pay upwards of $9/hour, billed to your credit card, for the privilege of using the establishment's WiFi hotspot | McDonald's | Buy $3 worth of McDonald's products and get 45 minutes of Internet access |
| Sit on a comfy coffee shop armchair or couch, mobile computer perched on your lap while checking email | Coffee shop | Sit on a mass produced straight-backed chair shifting weight from left to right buttock to avoid legs falling asleep while checking email |
| Try to explain to boss that you were working in the coffee shop for the entire afternoon not just sitting there killing time | Even | Spend your lunch hour working despite the fact that the boss is nowhere to be seen and won't recognize the dedication |
| Leave the coffee shop hungry, dehydrated and hyperactive because you did nothing but drink coffee all afternoon | Coffee shop | Leave the restaurant after 45 minutes with various condiments, crumbs and burger drippings in between the keyboard keys and greasy fingerprints on the screen |

# Home life under a microscope

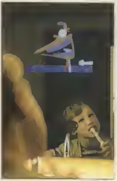
*Philips' HomeLab studies the technologies we may be living with tomorrow*

The door knew — just by reading a few signs — that the day had been tough for both of them. As it verified their identities with the eye scanner, the door used the "bad day" algorithm to adjust the house's temperature, humidity, and lighting, and select the just the right music to greet them.

A piece of bad science fiction? Perhaps, but it's also an idea for a home of the near future. And the idea doesn't stop with sensor laden doors, but includes electronic technologies that anticipate and then serve the needs of occupants all through the house. That's what "ambient intelligence" is all about, according to Philips Research representative, Ellen de Vries, recently visiting Canada from The Netherlands. There, Philips has been operating its HomeLab since April 2002.

HomeLab is the crucible for ambient intelligence, an ordinary looking two-bedroom house equipped with 34 hidden cameras and two-way mirrors where scientists of many disciplines monitor ordinary people interacting with technology prototypes. Subjects have stayed in HomeLab from a few hours to several days.

"In the future we think we will have technology in our houses that is not visible," says de Vries. Technology unseen is one of the key features of ambient intelligence. Today's home has obvious signs of technology, such as big-screen TV sets



and computers, but in a home with ambient intelligence, all of this would be embedded and for the most part, invisible.

A case in point: video displays, whether as TV sets or PC monitors, won't be big boxes taking up space or even thin boxes hanging on walls. De Vries talks about paintable displays: photoactive emulsions that could be applied to wall surfaces like paint, and then electrically charged to display video or computer signals.

Closer to reality, in June Philips announced the first commercial product to come out of HomeLab research, the Mirror TV. It is a specially polarized mirror with a 17-, 23-, or 30-inch LCD flat-panel display behind it. The polarized surface allows the display's video signal to be seen through the mirror, but when the display is off the entire surface looks like just a mirror.

According to Iain Burns, president of Philips Electronics Ltd. in Canada, the first target for the Mirror TV will be commercial settings like hotel rooms where space is limited. The Mirror TV could serve several functions: TV set, movie screen, computer monitor, interactive touch screen panel for self service, and, of course, mirror. And, says Burns, prices are competitive with the plasma displays that some upscale hotels are looking at. Eventually, the Mirror TV could be an integral part of a home imbued with ambient intelligence. In a bathroom, it could sense who was standing in front of it and display appropriate information: health-related stats, individual daily schedules, to-do lists, and the like. One application tested in the HomeLab was an animated cartoon whose aim was to show children how to brush their teeth and to make sure they brushed long enough.

By David Tenaka

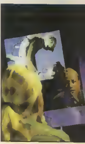
## Top 5 hates about consumer electronics

**According to a Philips survey of 1,000 U.S. consumers, the five things about consumer electronics that bug people the most:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Too many remote units with too many features | 29% |
| Ugly wires and cables | 22% |
| Having to set clocks after a power outage | 16% |
| Complicated user manuals | 12% |
| Figuring out how to set up new equipment | 8% |

## Query by humming

If you don't know the name of that tune but can hum a few bars, a home with ambient intelligence will be able to find it for you. The HomeLab is working on a stereo system that will find a song in your CD or MP3 collection by pattern matching what you hum to it. It would also respond to voice commands: for example, you could simply say the song's name.



# A game in the hand

## *Addictive handheld games for Palm OS and Pocket PCs*

Gaming on a handheld unit can be just as addictive as playing on a desktop machine And there are plenty of options for both Palm OS and Pocket PC devices

Don't believe it? Check out these great games:

**Bejeweled** for Palm OS and Pocket PC is a highly addictive jewel-matching game Tap adjacent pairs of gems to swap them and try to make matching horizontal and/or vertical lines of three or more www.astraware.com US$14 95

**Invade the Earth with Evil UFOs** for Palm OS. Fly your UFO over cities to destroy them, but watch out for missiles and don't crash into buildings! Featuring five episodes of five levels each, this is one game I had to play until I finished every level www.muddyglass.com US$7 95

Like solitaire? You get 70 card games in one package with **King Sol** for Pocket PC. Never be bored again www.rapturetech.com US$19 95

How about strategy games with real-time battles? **Medieval Heroes** for PalmOS is a turn based strategy game, featuring three levels of difficulty, five players [you, plus four computer players], real time field combat, four types of combat units, and high-resolution support. Well worth the US$15 www.medievalheroes com

With excellent Japanese animated graphics, **MetalStrike** is a high-end action/shooting game for PocketPC Get into your tank and destroy your enemy! www.greatelsoft com US$14 66

Space arcade gaming at its finest **3D Star Fighter Pilot** for both Palm OS and Pocket PC features a very fast real-time 3D graphics engine with advanced opponent AI that adapts to your playing style It features 31 levels with 21 different types of enemy fighters www.3dagames com US$14 50

An original concept maintain your aquarium while defending against aliens. **Inaaniquerium** for Palm OS or Pocket PC combines an action adventure game with strategy and a strange sense of humour www.astraware.com US$14.95

By Kevin Linfield

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## Advertising Index

| | |
|---|---|
| 1stDataRecovery.com | 20 |
| 2000 Computer | 45 |
| 3D Electronics | 10 |
| 3P Computer | 42 |
| ABC Computer | 43 |
| ABD International | 32 |
| AG Computers | 18 |
| Bell Sympatico High Speed | 3 |
| Best PC 4U | 44 |
| BLMAX Computers | 38 |
| Brampton Electronic Components | 38 |
| CanadaSys | 32 |
| Canadian Net | 46 |
| CJay Computers | 32 |
| Classifieds Ad | 36/37 |
| Compubest | 41 |
| COMPUBOOKS | 47 |
| CompuCellWarehouse | 16 |
| CompuSale | 34 |
| Compusky Inc | 27 |
| Computer Warehouse Outlet | 18 |
| Cybernet Communications | 30 |
| Cybraien Computer | 40 |
| Digital Media Centre | 22 |
| Digital Video Contest | 31 |
| Disc Master | 42 |
| Durham Net | 10 |
| Easy Computer Services | 14 |
| Echo Online | 1 |
| Eden Production | 41 |
| eHosting.ca | 10 |
| Far East Electronics | 28 |
| FJ Computers | 12 |
| GoGo Computers | 45 |
| Good As New Computers | 26 |
| Grey Tech | 8 |
| Grey Tech | 7 |
| IC Technology | 32 |
| ICCT Canada | 5 |
| in2net network Inc | 13 |
| Infonec Computers | 14 |
| Ink Town Canada | 28 |
| Inter Net | 2 |
| Ipower | 37 |
| J M Computers | 20 |
| JC Computech | 18 |
| Kelt | 20 |
| KV Computers | 46 |
| Laptop Closeout | 20 |
| look | 48 |
| Maxium Financial | 38 |
| MDG Canada | 24 |
| MDJ | 16 |
| MicroPoint | 34 |
| Monitor Plus Inc | 42 |
| Monitor Repair Centre | 20 |
| Navitex | 41 |
| New Legend | 6 |
| New Type Computers | 47 |
| Overseas Video Lab | 23 |
| OZ Tech Computers | 17 |
| Pathway | 15 |
| PC Maniac | 30 |
| PC Shop | 39 |
| PC Village | 33 |
| Photo Spree Contest | 40 |
| Pinnacle Systems | 12 |
| Premier Computer Canada | 21 |
| Quest Components | 47 |
| Reach Data | 44 |
| RS & S | 28 |
| Ruan Computers | 47 |
| Sateki Computer | 42 |
| Signa | 29 |
| Solugate Technology | 28 |
| Senlisk Ltd | 41 |
| Sonnam Computer Network | 38 |
| Summit Direct | 23 |
| Sunny | 14 |
| SuperIdea | 43 |
| Survey Research Panel | 35 |
| Tekmedia | 47 |
| Temken | 11 |
| Tradex | 4 |
| Transduction | 38 |
| U Computer | 27 |
| Wintronic | 26 |
| www.eskynet.com | 22 |
| www.inkjetmart.com | 34 |

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**But where do you start?**

The Internet Underground Music Archive (www iuma com) is undoubtedly the best place to begin Founded in 1993, this site acts like a central meeting place where musical artists and listeners can congregate

For musicians, IUMA is great Bands and sole acts can get listings for free They get a personalized Web address and page where they can include a lots of info on the band, post MP3s for download sell CDs and other merchandise, have message boards, fan lists, and email contact There is also opportunity to link to external Web pages if desired

For the listener it is pure heaven Thousands of bands, each with loads of MP3s to listen to You can search by genre or by country A simple search looking for English Canadian rock bands generated a list of more than 1,200 And there are musicians at IUMA from all over the world There is even an IUMA radio station that will stream music to you All this for the wonderful price of legal and free

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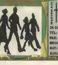

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Here's a unique photo tip that just might benefit the entire family. If you're tired of seeing your kids dragging themselves through school and hating every moment of it, trying giving them a "photo boost." It makes a fun weekend project, and your children just may learn that studying—with the right approach—can actually be fun

Ask your children to contribute to a list outlining the major problems in the world today from overpopulation and air pollution to poverty, race relations, etc
Have each child select two major problem areas of special concern Then have each make a photographic record of the problems (the neighbourhood smokestack spouting soot, bumper-to-bumper cars lining the expressway, homeless dogs wandering the street, for example).

Next, have each child "picture" possible solutions to the problems. A photo of a family riding their bicycles illustrates one way to cut down on air pollution from cars. A farmer tilling the fields illustrates one way to generate more food to help reduce world hunger When the photos have been processed (by a professional processor or printed out on a colour inkjet at home), have each child write short captions for the images, including what the problem is, and what some solutions might be

This exercise helps to develop social awareness, logical thinking, creativity, and reading-and writing skills in children It can be a one-time event or a monthly challenge The rewards for your children will be escalating school grades and a marked sense of self worth

**Source: Photo Marketing Association International**

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- 10/100 built in LAN
- Antec designer case w/350 watt supply
- Logitech deluxe keyboard
- Logitech optical wheel mouse
- Altec speakers 221CN with subwoofer
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition

### Gamers Dream Machine

**$2319**

- Intel Pentium 4 processor at 3.0Ghz (800fsb)
- Asus 800Mhz FSB motherboard (P4P800)
- Seagate 120GB 7 200 rpm drive w/8mb
- 1GB DDR high-speed memory (400Mhz)
- ATI 9600 Pro video card with 128mb
- Viewsonic P95F+ 19" flat CRT display
- Samsung 52x CD Writer
- LG Electronics 16x DVD-ROM drive
- 5.1 Digital surround sound controller
- Serial drive support RAID 10/100 LAN
- Antec designer case w/350 watt supply
- Logitech deluxe keyboard
- Logitech optical wheel mouse
- Altec speakers 221CN with subwoofer
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition

### Home/Student Special

**$889**

- Intel Pentium 4 processor at 1.8Ghz (400fsb)
- Gigabyte motherboard (fully expandable)
- Seagate 80GB 7 200 rpm hard drive
- 256mb DDR high-speed memory
- 256 bit graphics engine (>64mb SM)
- Samsung 750S 17" CRT display
- USB 2.0 support, ATA133 support
- Samsung 52x CD Writer
- Built-in sound controller
- 10/100 built-in LAN
- Mid tower case with 350 watt supply
- Logitech deluxe keyboard
- Logitech wheel mouse
- Stereo speakers AC powered
- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition

## NOTEBOOKS

**TOSHIBA**

- Model A10-REH
- 2Ghz Celeron
- 256mb, 30gb drive
- CDRW/DVD Drive
- 15" TFT display

**$1459**

**acer**

- Model 290XCi
- Centrino 1.3Ghz
- 256mb 30gb drive
- CDRW/DVD Drive
- 14" TFT display

**$1799**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A10-REH Satellite | Celeron 2.0Ghz/256mb/30gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPH | 1459 |
| A10-5WM Satellite | Pent. P4 2.6Ghz/512mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPH | 1819 |
| A20-HKQ Satellite | Pent. 4 2.8Ghz/512mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPH | 2099 |
| 2450TMG Satellite | Pent. 4M 2.6Ghz/512mb/60gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPH | 2369 |
| 5200 Satellite | Pentium 4M 2.2Ghz/512mb/60gb/15T/DVD-RW/XPH | 3089 |
| M10 Protege | Centrino 1.5Ghz/512mb/60gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPP | 3249 |
| R100 Protege Ultra-Light | Centrino 900Mhz/256mb/40gb/12T/XPP | 3189 |
| S1-0ZQ3V Tecra | Centrino 1.4Ghz/256mb/30gb/14T/DVD/XPPRO | 1949 |
| M1-3TKWP Tecra | Pent. 4M 1.5Ghz/512mb/40gb/14T/CDRW-DVD/XPPRO | 3009 |
| M1-3YCWP Tecra | Pent. 4M 1.6Ghz/512mb/60gb/14T/CDRW-DVD/XPPRO | 3369 |

*Upgrades · we sell hard drives and memory for most notebook models · call for pricing*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 242X TravelMate | Celeron 2.4Ghz/256mb/30gb/14T/CD/XPP | 1409 |
| 242LMi TravelMate | Celeron 2.4Ghz/256mb/40gb/15T/DVDWRITER/XPP | 2069 |
| 290XI TravelMate | Centrino 1.3Ghz/128mb/20gb/14T/CD/XPH | 1469 |
| 290XCI TravelMate | Centrino 1.3Ghz/256mb/30gb/14T/CDRW-DVD/XPH | 1799 |
| 290XMI TravelMate | Centrino 1.3Ghz/256mb/30gb/14T/DVDWRITER/XPH | 1929 |
| 250LC TravelMate | Pent. 4M 2.4Ghz/256mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPP | 1929 |
| 250LCI TravelMate | Pent. 4M 2.4Ghz/256mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPP | 1999 |
| 433LC TravelMate | Pent. 4 2.8Ghz/256mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPP | 2179 |
| 661LCI TravelMate | Centrino 1.4Ghz/256mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPP | 2319 |
| 662LCI TravelMate | Centrino 1.5Ghz/512mb/40gb/15T/DVDWRITER/XPP | 2579 |
| 800LCI TravelMate | Centrino 1.3Ghz/256mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPP | 2579 |
| 802LCI TravelMate | Centrino 1.5Ghz/512mb/40gb/15T/CDRW-DVD/XPP | 2729 |

## DIGITAL CAMERAS

| | |
|---|---|
| **CANON** *PowerShot Series* | |
| A60 2 Megapixels | 379 |
| A70 3 Megapixels | 469 |
| A80 4 Megapixels | CALL |
| A300 3 Megapixels | 269 |
| S400 4 Megapixels | 649 |
| S45 4 Megapixels | 739 |
| G5 5 Megapixels | 1159 |
| S50 5 Megapixels | 829 |
| **FUJI** | See our website |
| **SONY** *CyberShot Series* | |
| DSCU30 2 Megapixels | 339 |
| DSCU60 2 Megapixels | 409 |
| DSCP92 5 Megapixels | 639 |
| DSCV1 5 Megapixels | 899 |
| DSCP10 5 Megapixels | 729 |
| DSCF717 5 Megapixels | 1139 |
| DSCP8 3 Megapixels | 539 |
| DSCP72 3 Megapixels | 459 |
| DSCP52 3 Megapixels | 369 |
| DSCP32 3 Megapixels | 339 |
| **SONY** *Mavica Series* | |
| MVC-FD100 1.2 Megapixels | 469 |
| MVC-FD200 2.1 Megapixels | 629 |
| **SONY** *Handycam Video Camera's* | |
| CCD-TRV118 | 459 |
| DCR-TRV19 | 799 |
| DCR-TRV22 | 889 |
| DCR-TRV33 | 1069 |
| DCR-TRV250 | 819 |
| DCR-TRV350 | 739 |
| DCR-TRV38 | 1149 |

## DIGITAL MEMORY MODULES

LEXAR Media

| | |
|---|---|
| **COMPACT FLASH (CF)** | |
| 256MB 16X (Get $15 back by mail) | 99 |
| 512MB 16X (Get $30 back by mail) | 209 |
| 256MB 40X Pro | 129 |
| 512MB 40X Pro | 259 |
| 1GB 40X Pro | 429 |
| 2GB 40X Pro (Get $75 back by mail) | 859 |
| 4GB 40X Pro | 1889 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **MEMORY STICK (MS)** | |
| 64MB | 59 |
| 128MB | 79 |
| 256MB (Get $30 back by mail) | 109 |
| 256MB Pro | 139 |
| 512MB Pro | 339 |
| 1 GB Professional | 669 |
| **SECURE DATA (SD)** | |
| 64MB | 59 |
| 128MB | 89 |
| 256MB (Get $30 back by mail) | 109 |
| 512MB | 449 |
| 256MB 32X | 139 |
| 512MB 32X | 489 |

**Lacie 6 in 1**
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**$39.88**

## PDA'S

| | |
|---|---|
| **PALM COMPUTING** | |
| M130 (Palm OS) | 219 |
| ZIRE (Palm OS) | 139 |
| ZIRE 71 (Palm OS) | 389 |
| TUNGSTEN C (Palm OS) | 619 |
| TUNGSTEN T2 (Palm OS) | 499 |
| TUNGSTEN W (Palm OS) | 529 |
| **HEWLETT PACKARD/COMPAQ** | |
| Ipaq 1940 (Pocket PC) | 379 |
| Ipaq 2210 (Pocket PC) | 509 |
| Ipaq 5550 (Pocket PC) | 769 |
| **TOSHIBA** | |
| E350 (Pocket PC) | 399 |
| E750 (Pocket PC) | 659 |
| **SONY** | |
| Clie PEGSJ20 (Palm OS) | 209 |
| Clie PEGSJ22 (Palm OS) | 299 |
| Clie PEGSJ33 (Palm OS) | 399 |

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## PROCESSORS

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|---|---|
| **INTEL** *CELERON Retail* | |
| CELERON2.0GHz(400Mhz) | 99 |
| CELERON2.2GHz(400Mhz) | 119 |
| CELERON2.3GHz(400Mhz) | 129 |
| CELERON2.4GHz(400Mhz) | 139 |
| CELERON2.5GHz(400Mhz) | 139 |
| **INTEL** *PENTIUM 4 Retail* | |
| 1.8GHz 512kb (400Mhz) | 199 |
| 2.4GHz 512kb (533Mhz) | 249 |
| 2.66GHz 512kb (533Mhz) | 279 |
| 2.8GHz 512kb (533Mhz) | 379 |
| 2.4GHz 512kb (800Mhz) | 269 |
| 2.67GHz 512kb (800Mhz) | 319 |
| 2.8GHz 512kb (800Mhz) | 399 |
| 3.06GHz 512kb (800Mhz) | 579 |
| 3.2GHz 512kb (800Mhz) | 819 |
| **AMD** *THOROUGHBRED Retail* | |
| XP 2200+ (266Mhz) | 119 |
| XP 2400+ (266Mhz) | 129 |
| XP 2600+ (333Mhz) | 159 |
| XP 2700+ (333Mhz) | 209 |
| **AMD** *BARTON Retail* | |
| XP 2500+ (333Mhz) | 139 |
| XP 2800+ (333Mhz) | 269 |
| XP 3000+ (333Mhz) | 379 |
| XP 3200+ (400Mhz) | 659 |
| **AMD** *OPTERON Retail* | |
| OPTERON 240 (1.4GHz) | 389 |
| OPTERON 242 (1.6GHz) | 669 |

## MOTHERBOARDS

| | |
|---|---|
| **FOR INTEL PROCESSORS** | |
| GIGABYTE 8SIMLH-P w/Video | 99 |
| ASUS P4S533-X | 89 |
| ASUS P4S8X-X | 109 |
| ASUS P4C800E-DX | 289 |
| ASUS P4G8X-DX | 209 |
| ASUS P4GE-VM w/Video | 149 |
| ASUS P4P800 | 179 |
| ASUS P4P800-DX | 209 |
| ASUS P4P800-VM w/Video | 159 |
| ASUS P4B533-WA | 119 |
| ASUS P4BGL-MX w/Video | 99 |
| ASUS P4PE-X | 119 |
| ASUS P4PE-GBL-R | 179 |
| ASUS P4PE-L | 139 |
| ASUS P4PE-L-BP | 149 |
| ASUS P4PE-L-R | 189 |
| ASUS P4S533-MX | 99 |
| ASUS P4SDX | 129 |
| **FOR AMD PROCESSORS** | |
| ASUS A7N266-VM w/Video | 999 |
| ASUS A7N8X | 149 |
| ASUS A7N8X-X | 129 |
| ASUS A7N8X-DX | 189 |
| ASUS A7V8X-X | 99 |

## SOUND CARDS

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|---|---|
| **CREATIVE LABS** | |
| 128 (PCI/OEM) | 29 |
| LIVE DIGITAL 5.1 (OEM) | 59 |
| AUDIGY GAMER | 99 |
| AUDIGY2 (OEM) | 109 |
| AUDIGY2 | 159 |
| AUDIGY2 PLATINUM | 249 |
| AUDIGY2 PLATINUM (Ext.) | 309 |

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## HARD DRIVES

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|---|---|
| **SEAGATE** *EIDE (PATA)* | |
| 40GB (ST340014A) | 99 |
| 60GB (ST360014A) | 100 |
| 80GB (ST380011A) | 119 |
| 120GB (ST3120022A) | 149 |
| 120GB (ST3120026A) 8mb | 159 |
| 160GB (ST3160023A) 8mb | 229 |
| **SEAGATE** *SERIAL (SATA)* | |
| 80GB (ST380013AS) 8mb | 159 |
| 120GB (ST3120026AS) 8mb | 169 |
| 160GB (ST3160023AS) 8mb | 239 |
| **SEAGATE** *SCSI - 10,000 RPM* | |
| 36.6GB (ST-336607LW) | 269 |
| 73.3GB (ST-373307LW) | 559 |
| 146GB (ST-3146807LW) | 1169 |
| **SEAGATE** *SCSI - 15,000 RPM* | |
| 18GB (ST 318453LW) | 339 |
| 36GB (ST 336753LW) | 489 |
| 73.3GB (ST-373453LW) | 959 |
| **WESTERN DIGITAL** *IDE (PATA)* | |
| 40 GB (400JB) | 99 |
| 60 GB (600BB) | 99 |
| 60 GB (600JB) 8mb | 109 |
| 80 GB (800BB) | 109 |
| 80 GB (800JB) 8mb | 129 |
| 120 GB (1200BB) | 149 |
| 120 GB (1200JB) 8mb | 159 |
| 160 GB (1600BB) | 229 |
| 160 GB (1600JB) 8mb | 299 |
| 200 GB (2000BB) | 269 |
| 200 GB (2000JB) 8mb | 299 |
| **WESTERN DIGITAL** *Serial (SATA)* | |
| 120GB (1200JD) | 179 |
| 200GB (2000JD) | 319 |
| **MAXTOR** *EIDE (PATA)* | |
| 60GB (#6Y060L0) | 109 |
| 80GB (#6Y080L0) | 119 |
| 120GB (#6Y120L0) | 149 |
| 120GB (#6Y120P0) 8mb | 159 |
| 160GB (#6Y160L0) | 199 |
| 160GB (#6Y160P0) 8mb | 219 |
| 200GB (#6Y200P0) 8mb | 279 |
| 250GB (#7Y250P0) 8mb | 409 |

## EXTERNAL DRIVES

| | |
|---|---|
| **LACIE** *Pocket Drives* | |
| *(Firewire & USB 2 Interfaces)* | |
| 40GB (4200RPM) #300353 | 329 |
| 80GB (5400RPM) #300190 | 469 |
| **LACIE** *Firewire Drives* | |
| 80GB #300510 D2 | 269 |
| 120GB #300511 D2 | 299 |
| 160GB #300659 D2 | 359 |
| 200GB #300656 D2 | 469 |
| **GREYTECH** *Pocket Drives* | |
| *(Firewire & USB 2 Interfaces)* | |
| 20GB #POCKET20 | 219 |
| 40GB #POCKET40 | 279 |
| **GREYTECH** *Firewire Drives* | |
| 40GB #FIRE40 | 179 |
| 120GB #FIRE120 | 239 |
| 200GB #FIRE200 | 369 |
| **GREYTECH** *USB Drives* | |
| 40GB #USB40 | 159 |
| 80GB #USB80 | 189 |
| 120GB #USB120 | 219 |
| 200GB #USB200 | 349 |
| **GREYTECH** *Combo Drives* | |
| *(Firewire & USB 2 Interfaces)* | |
| 80GB #COMBO80 | 219 |
| 120GB #COMBO120 | 249 |
| 200GB #COMBO200 | 389 |
| **USB2/FIREWIRE PCI CARD** | 39 |

## OPTICAL DRIVES

| | |
|---|---|
| **INTERNAL UNITS** | |
| ***CD-ROMS*** | |
| SONY 52x (EIDE) | 39 |
| LG 52x (EIDE) | 29 |
| LITE-ON 52x (EIDE) | 29 |
| ***DVD-ROMS*** | |
| LG DVD 16X | 59 |
| PIONEER 16X (TRAY/SLOT) | 59 |
| ***CD WRITERS*** | |
| LG GCE-8523B 52x24x52 | 59 |
| PLEXTOR W4824 48x24x48 | 139 |
| SAMSUNG SW-252 52x24x52 | 59 |
| ***COMBINATION DRIVES*** | |
| (CD Writer and DVD Reader) | |
| LG GCC-4480B 48x24x16 | 89 |
| SAMSUNG SM-352 52x24x16 | 99 |
| ***DVD WRITERS*** | |
| PIONEER DVR-106 4x | 299 |
| LG GSA4040BI 4x | 269 |
| SONY DWU14A 4x | 299 |
| SONY DRU-510A 4x | 399 |
| PLEXTOR PX-708A 8x | 389 |
| PLEXTOR PX-504UF/SW 4x | 419 |
| **EXTERNAL UNITS** | |
| ***CD WRITERS*** | |
| PLEXTOR 48x24x48 USB2 | 209 |
| GREY-TECH 52x24x52 USB2 | 129 |
| GREY-TECH 52x24x52 Dual | 149 |
| *(Firewire AND USB2 interfaces)* | |

## DVD / CD MEDIA

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| ***Princo DVD-R Media*** | |
| DVD-R 4x 25 Pack | $44^{95}$ |
| DVD-R 1x 50 Pack | $65^{95}$ |
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| ***Ritek DVD+R Media*** | |
| DVD+R 1x 25 Pack | $59^{75}$ |
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F.Y.I. A DVD takes about 86 minutes to write at 1x [illegible] 15 minutes at 4x

## DVD/JEWEL CASES

| | |
|---|---|
| SINGLE | 0.25 |
| SINGLE-SLIMLINE | 0.28 |
| DOUBLE | 0.39 |
| QUAD | 0.75 |
| DVD-SINGLE | 0.59 |
| DVD-DOUBLE | 0.69 |
| DVD-DOUBLE-MICRO | 0.49 |

## POWER SUPPLIES

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|---|---|
| **ANTEC** | |
| ***Solution Series*** | |
| SL350 350 watts | 79 |
| ***TruePower Series*** | |
| TRUE330 330 watts | 79 |
| TRUE430 430 watts | 119 |
| TRUE480 480 watts | 139 |
| TRUE BLUE 480 480 watts | 139 |
| TRUE550 550 watts | 149 |
| **ENERMAX** | |
| EG365P-VEFC 350 watts | 79 |
| EG465P-VE 450 watts | 109 |
| EG651P-VE 550 watts | 189 |

## CASES

| | |
|---|---|
| **GREY-TECH** | |
| GT-125 (350 watts USB) | 49 |
| GT-80569 (200 watts, USB) | 99 |
| *(Micro desktop for POS or Home Theatres)* | |
| **AOPEN** | |
| #QF50A-B (300 watts USB) | 89 |
| **ENLIGHT** | |
| #7250 (no power USB) | 59 |
| **ANTEC** | |
| SONATA (380 watts USB) | 149 |
| LANBOY (350 watts, Window, USB) | 139 |
| PLUS660AMG (330 watts, USB) | 159 |
| PLUS1080AMG (430 watts USB) | 189 |
| PLUSVIEW100 (no power window) | 100 |
| PLUS1500B (550 watts, server) | 599 |
| SLK1800 (300 watts USB) | 79 |
| SLK2600AMB (300 watts USB) | 89 |
| SLK3700AMB (350 watts USB) | 109 |
| SX600II (no power) | 69 |
| SX1000II (no server) | 89 |
| SX1040BII (400 watts) | 149 |
| SX630II (300 watts) | 119 |
| SX635BII (300 watts) | 129 |
| SX835II (350 watts) | 129 |

## VIDEO CARDS

| | |
|---|---|
| **ASUS** | |
| ***Geforce 4 Series*** | |
| V9180VS-64 MX440-8X 64MB | 139 |
| V9280TD-128 Ti-4200-8X 128MB | 189 |
| ***GFX Series*** | |
| V9520 GFX-5200 MAGIC 128MB | 119 |
| V9520VS GFX-5200 128MB 8X | 159 |
| Video Suite with Video In/Video Out features | |
| V9520TD GFX-5200 128MB | 135 |
| V9560TD GFX 5600 128MB | 249 |
| V9560VS GFX-5600 128MB | 259 |
| Video Suite with Video In/Video Out features | |
| **ATI TECHNOLOGIES** | |
| ***Radeon Series*** | |
| 7500 64MB | 119 |
| 7500LE 64MB by Powercolor | 89 |
| 9200 128MB | 169 |
| 9600 Pro 128MB | 269 |
| 9800 Pro 128MB | 549 |
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| Featuring TV Tuner Video Editing DVD Production | |
| All-In-Wonder VE (PCI) | 199 |
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| 9600 Pro 128MB | 339 |
| 9800 Pro 128MB | 569 |

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| E70F / E70FB | 199 / 199 |
| E75F / G70F | 239 / 219 |
| G70FMB / G70FM | 239 / 239 |
| G75F / P75F+B | 239 / 259 |
| P70F / P75F+ | 269 / 259 |
| **VIEWSONIC** 19" | |
| E90 / E90F | 289 / 300 |
| E90FB/E90+SB | 309/309 |
| GS790 | 369 |
| P95F+ / P95F+BK | 359 / 359 |
| **VIEWSONIC** 21" | |
| E220 / G810 | 609 / 519 |
| G220FB | 639 |
| **VIEWSONIC** 22" | |
| P220F/P200FB | 769/789 |
| P225FB/P225F | 829/829 |
| **SAMSUNG** 17" | |
| 750S / 750SB | 169 / 169 |
| 753DF | 169 |
| 757MB / 763MB | 299 / 249 |
| 763MB-B | 249 |
| **SAMSUNG** 19" | |
| 950B / 957MB | 289 / 349 |
| 955DF / 955MB-B | 319 / 339 |
| 955DFB / 955MB | 319 / 399 |
| **SAMSUNG** 21" | |
| 1100DF/1100DBF | 669/669 |
| 1200NF | 799 |

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| ***BACK-UPS PRO*** | |
| BP280S (23/4HR/180W) | 169 |
| BP420S (13/4HR/260W) | 269 |
| BP500UC (13/7HR/315W) | 159 |
| BP650S (11/4HR/410W) | 349 |
| BP1000 (16/3HR/670W) | 499 |
| BP1400 [illegible] | 599 |
| ***SMART-UPS*** | |
| SUA750XL [illegible] | 529 |
| SUA1000 [illegible] | 559 |
| SUA1000XL [illegible] | 649 |
| SUA1500 [illegible] | 669 |
| SU420NET [illegible] | 259 |
| SU620NET [illegible] | 329 |
| SU700NET [illegible] | 399 |
| SU2200NET (32/5HR/1600W) | 1089 |

## LCD MONITORS

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|---|---|
| **VIEWSONIC** 15" | |
| VE155 / VE155B | 399 / 399 |
| VE500 | 399 |
| VG500 / VG500B | 449 / 449 |
| VE510+ | 469 |
| VG150M / VG150MB | 439 / 459 |
| VX500+ | 469 |
| **VIEWSONIC** 17" | |
| VE700 / VE175 | 599 / 509 |
| VE170M / VE175B | 669 / 589 |
| VG171B | 619 |
| VG700 / VG700B | 599 / 599 |
| VX700 | 639 |
| VP171B | 759 |
| **VIEWSONIC** 18" | |
| VG800 / VG800B | 709 / 709 |
| VG181 / VG181B | 979 / 969 |
| VX800 | 829 |
| VP181B | 799 |
| **VIEWSONIC** 19" | |
| VX900 / VG191 | 959 / 1099 |
| VG191B / VG900B | 1099 / 899 |
| VP191B | 1019 |
| **VIEWSONIC** 20" | |
| VP201M / VP201MB | 1669 / 1799 |
| VX2000 | 1629 |
| **SAMSUNG** 15" | |
| 150N / 150NB | 409 / 429 |
| 151N / 151NB | 429 / 439 |
| 151P/151MP | 639/619 |
| 152BB / 152BS | 509 / 509 |
| 152T | 589 |
| **SAMSUNG** 17" | |
| 170MP/170N | 829 / 639 |
| 170NB/172BB | 649 / 749 |
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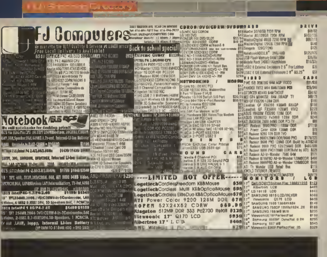

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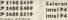

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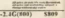

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**Celeron 1.7G $329**
**P4 1.8 G $429**

| | |
|---|---|
| C-1.8G/2.0G/2.2G | $339/$349/$359 |
| C-2.3G/C-2.4G | $369/$379 |
| P4 2.4G/2.6G | $479/$519 |

ASRock M266/128M ddr
32M VGA(on board) / 40G HDD
LG 52X rdrom /1 44M FD/ Speaker
16Bit Sound/ Lan(on board)
350W usbCase/keybord/Scrollmouse

**P4-1.8G $489**

| | |
|---|---|
| Celeron 1.7G/1.8G/2G | $389/$399/$409 |
| C-2.2G/2.3G/2.4G | $419/$429/$439 |
| P4 2.4G/P4 2.66G | $539/$579 |

ECS P4VXASD2+MB /256M 333 ddr
ECS 64M Video AGP / 1 44M FD
40G 7200 HD/ LG 52x24x52 CDRW
16Bit Sound / Lan(on board)
350W usb Case / Speaker
Keyboard/ Scroll mouse

**P4-1.8G $569**

| | |
|---|---|
| Celeron1.7G/2.2G/2.4G | $479/$509/$529 |
| P4 2.4G/2.66G/P4 2.8G | $629/$669/$759 |

ASUS P4S533X Mainboard
256M PC2700(333) ddr RAM
GeForce2 64M Video
1 44M FDD/40G 7200HD
LG 16X DVD/LG 52x24x52 CDRW
16Bit Sound/Lan(on board)
350W usb Case / Speaker
Keyboard / Scroll mouse

**P4-2.4G(800) $809**

| | |
|---|---|
| P4 2.66G(800) | $839 |
| P4 2.8G(800)/3.0G(800) | $939/1109 |

Asus P4S800 MB&350W usbCase
512MBpc3200(400) ddrRAM
ATI Radeon 9200 128M ddr Video
80G7200 HDD/1 44M FDD
LG 52x24x52CDRW/LG16x DVD
16 Bit Sound/Lan(on board)
Altec Lansing AVS200 spker(2pc)
Microsoft Internent kb &Optical mouse

**AMD 2000 $279**
ECS K7SOM / 350W usbCase
128MB DDR
32M VGA (on board)
40G 7200 HD / 1.44 FD
LG 52X CD-Rom / Speaker
16 Bit Sound / Lan (on board)
Keyboard/ Scroll Mouse

**XP 1800 $389**

| | |
|---|---|
| XP2000/XP2200 | $409/$419 |
| Xp2400 | $439 |

ECS K7S5A pro MB/ 256M 333 ddr
ECS 64M Video AGP/1.44M FD
40G 7200 HD / LG 52x24x52 cdrw
16Bit Sound / Lan (on board)
350W usb Case / Speaker
Keyboard / Scroll mouse

**XP 2200 $459**

| | |
|---|---|
| XP2000/2400/2600 | $439/$469/$499 |
| XP2700/2800 | $549/$599 |

Asus A7V8X-X MB
256MB Pc2700(333) ddr RAM
ECS 64M Video AGP / 1 44M FDD
40G 7200 HD / LG 52X24X52CDRW
16Bit Sound /Lan (on board)
350W usb Case / Speaker
Keyboard / Scroll mouse

**XP 2400 $669**

| | |
|---|---|
| XP2000/2200/2600 | $649/$659/$699 |
| XP2700/2800/3000 | $749/$809/$919 |

ASUS A7N8X Deluxe MB & 350W usbCase
256MB Pc 2700(333) ddr RAM
GeForce2 64M Video /1 44M FD
80G 7200 HDD/LG 52x24x52CDRW
LG 16x DVD /16Bit Sound/ Lan(on board)
Altec Lansing AVS200 Speaker(2pc)
Microsoft Internent kb&Optical mouse

***MONITOR***

| | |
|---|---|
| 15" L5AK5/L5AKs 17" L7AK2 LCD | 319/323/469 |
| 15" Samsung 150N/151N | 369/406 |
| 17" Samsung 170N white/171N silver | 569/[illegible] |
| 17" BenQ V772/P774 FLAT | 135/149 |
| 17" Samsung 754S/753DF | 155/165 |
| 17" Viewsonic E70F3B E75F/G70F | 189/231/219 |
| 19" Samsung 950B 955DF | 225/279 |
| 19" Viewsonic E90F G90F/P95F+ | 299/319/399 |

***CD/DVD WRITER***

| | |
|---|---|
| LG 52x24x52/Sony 52x24x52 | 52/54 |
| LG 52X CDRW&16X DVD combo | [illegible] |
| Plextor 52x24x52/Plextor52x32x52 | 105/[illegible] |
| Pioneer DVDRW 105(oem) A05(rt) | 249/[illegible] |
| LG DVD RW(pr)/Sony DVDRW DRU[illegible] | 215/[illegible] |

***VIDEO CARD***

| | |
|---|---|
| ECS 64M/Pine Geforce2 64M | 35/46 |
| ATI A-1 W Radeon 9000pro 9800pro | 229/539 |
| ATI 7000 64M ddr 9000 Dual | 55/67 |
| ATI 9200 64M 9200 128M 9600pro | 75/92/215 |
| ATI 9000pro 128M OEM/ Retail | 249 [illegible] |
| Asus 9520 Magic 9900TD | 108 390 |
| MSI Fx5200 T64 64M Fx5600 128M | 99/233 |

***CDROM&DVD***

| | |
|---|---|
| LG 52X CD-Rom Sony 16x DVD | 22/42 |
| LG 16X DVD Toshiba16X DVD | 42/42 |

***Printer&Scanner&Speaker***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| BenQ 4300U Epson 1260/Epson 660 | | 60/75 17[illegible] |
| LexMarkZ35 Canon S330 Epson C62 | | 58/[illegible] |
| AltecLansing 3cdw 5cdw 2340 2540 | | 31 51 /[illegible] |

***MAIN BOARD***

| | |
|---|---|
| Socket 478 (P4) | |
| Asus P4B533/P4G8X(D) | 121/195 |
| Asus P4S8X X P4S533X P4S533MX | 101 82/80 |
| Asus P4PE-1 P4PE R-GOL | 115/171 |
| Asus P4B800 P4P800(Dy P4C800(D) | 116/198/256 |
| ECS P4VXASD2+ | 49 |
| ASRock M266(Audio Video Lan) | 69 |
| Socket A | |
| Asus A7V8X X/ A7V8X A7V 600 | 87 135/127 |
| Asus A7N8X regular/Deluxe | 146/179 |
| ECS K7S5A(PRO) K7SOM | 59/105 |

***SOUND CARD***

| | |
|---|---|
| Aopen PCI 5.1 Sound Blaster Live 5.1 Audigy | [illegible] |
| [illegible] Audigy 2 OEM Retail Platinum EX | 99/149 [illegible] |

***HARD DRIVE***

| | |
|---|---|
| MAXTOR | |
| 40G/60G/80G/120G | 79/96/108/139 |
| 120G/200G(8M) | 152/279 |
| SEAGATE | |
| 80G SATA 80G(8M) SATA120G(8M) | 102/145/179 |
| Western Digital | |
| 40G/80G/120G | 84/105/144 |
| 40G/80G/120G/200G(8M) | 89 122/153/[illegible] |

***FAX MODEM***

| | |
|---|---|
| Pine 56K V92 INT/PCI | 14 |
| AOPEN 56K PCI/USB/PLX/FX | 15/30/38 |

***NETWORKING***

| | |
|---|---|
| D-Link 530TX / 550TX | 10/14 |
| AOW Sports HUB | 29 |
| Pine Router/D-Link Router | 42/52 |

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Sep

## PREMIER CHOICE BRONZE

- [illegible] for Socket 478 CPUs or ECS [illegible] for Socket A CPUs
- Panasonic 3.5" 1.44MB HD Floppy Disk Drive
- [illegible] Fast ATA-100 Hard Disk Drive @ 7200RPM
- [illegible] DDR RAM PC2700 184Pin RAM Memory
- [illegible] Mid-Tower 4 Bay ATX Case
- Cyberzone True 300W Power Supply w/ Dual fans
- 2- USB Ports, 2- 16550 Serial Ports, 1 PS/2 Mouse Port & 1 Bi-Directional Parallel Port
- On-Board AGP 3D Video w/ 64Mb Buffer
- [illegible]
- 56k Fax/Modem w/ Voicemail Support, v.90 CNR
- On-Board 10/100 PCI Full Duplex Network Adapter
- Fifty-Two Speed (52X) Max EIDE CD-ROM Drive
- Samsung 700B Digital 24hdp SVGA Colour Monitor
- Mitsumi 104 Enhanced Soft-Touch Win 98 Keyboard
- Labtec Spin 50 Amplified Powered Stereo Speakers
- Microsoft Compatible Serial Mouse w/ Mouse Pad
- MS Windows XP Home OEM w/ CD and Manual
- 3 Years Labour & 1 Year Parts Warranty

## PREMIER CHOICE SILVER

- Asus A7V8X-X Motherboard for AMD Socket A or Asus P4S800 Motherboard for Intel Pentium-4
- Panasonic 3.5" 1.44MB HD Floppy Disk Drive
- 80Gb Fast ATA-100 Hard Disk Drive @ 7200RPM
- 512Mb DDR RAM PC2700 184Pin RAM Memory
- Premium 6 Bay Mid-Tower ATX Case w/ NEC 300W
- 4- USB Ports, 2- 16550 Serial Ports, 1 PS/2 Mouse Port & 1 Bi-Directional Parallel Port
- Sapphire Radeon 9200 AGP Video 64Mb & TV-Out
- Sony DVD/CD-RW Combo Drive (48/24/48/16)
- On-Board PCI Stereo Sound w/ Surround Sound
- Altec Lansing AVS300 w/ 2 Speakers & Subwoofer
- Rockwell 56K Int. Voice/Fax/Modem v.90 (PCI)
- On-Board 10/100 PCI Full Duplex Network Adapter
- Samsung 753DF 17" Digital 20hdp CRT Monitor Flat
- Mitsumi 104 Enhanced Soft-Touch Win 98 Keyboard
- Logitech Optical Mouse w/ Wheel w/ Mouse Pad
- MS Windows XP Home OEM w/ CD and Manual
- 3 Years Labour & 1 Year Parts Warranty

## PREMIER CHOICE GOLD

- Asus P4P800 Motherboard for Intel Pentium-4 CPUs or Asus A7V600 Motherboard for AMD CPUs
- Panasonic 3.5" 1.44MB HD Floppy Disk Drive
- [illegible] ATA-133 Hard Disk Drive @ 7200RPM w/ 8Mb
- 512Mb DDR RAM, PC3200, 184 Pin RAM Memory
- Enlight Mid-Tower Case w/ 7 Bays & 2 Front USB
- Enlight True 300W ATX Power Supply
- 4- USB 1.1 Ports, 2- USB 2.0 Ports, 2- Serial Ports & 1-Bi-Directional Parallel Port
- Asus v9520/TD GeForceFX 5200 w/ 128MB
- Sony [illegible] CD-RW Drive w/ Burn Software
- Sony 16X DVD-ROM Drive w/ 48X CDROM support
- SoundBlaster Live 5.1 PCI Stereo Soundcard
- Altec Lansing AVS500 w/ 4 Speakers & Sub
- On-Board 10/100 PCI Full Duplex Network Adapter
- Samsung 900 19" Digital 22hdp CRT Monitor
- Keytronic 104 Enhanced Soft-Touch Keyboard
- Microsoft Wheel Mouse Optical Mouse w/ Pad
- MS Windows XP Home OEM w/ CD and Manual
- 3 Years Labour & 1 Year Parts Warranty

## PREMIER CHOICE BLACK

- [illegible] or Asus A7N8X-DX Motherboard for AMD CPUs
- Panasonic 3.5" 1.44MB Black Floppy Disk Drive
- 80Gb SATA/150 Hard Disk Drive @ 7200RPM w/ [illegible]
- 512Mb DDR RAM, PC3200 184 Pin RAM Memory
- Neat Mid-Tower ATX Case w/ Window & Neon [illegible]
- Enlight True 420W ATX Power Supply w/ 2 Fans
- On-Board SATA Raid Controller & Ultra/133 [illegible]
- 6- USB Ports and 2- 1394 Firewire Ports
- Sapphire Radeon 9600 w/ 128Mb & DVI TV-Out
- Sony 52x24x52 Black CD-RW Drive w/ Burn Software
- Sony 16X Black DVD-ROM Drive w/ 48X CDROM
- Realtek ALC650 Audio w/ 6 Channel Support
- Creative Inspire 5.1 5300 w/ 6 Speakers & Subwoofer
- US Robotics 56K Internal Fax/Modem v.90
- RJ-45 Ports for High Speed Network Access
- Samsung 953DF Black 19" 20hdp CRT Monitor
- Keytronic KT800 104 Black Soft-Touch Keyboard
- Keytronic Black Mouse w/ Scroll Wheel
- Antec 80mm Second Case fan w/ Colored LEDs
- Arctic Silver II Thermal Heat Compound
- MS Windows XP Home OEM w/ CD and Manual
- 3 Years Labour & 1 Year Parts Warranty

[illegible]

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## AMD Best Buy

**AMD ATHLON XP 2500+ Barton**

**LG 17" T710BH 1280x1024 CRT Monitor**
ASUS A7V8X-X VIA KT400 USB2.0 Board
512MB PC-2700 DDR333 Memory
80GB Maxtor ATA133 7200rpm Drive
GeForce2 MX400 64MB DDR Graphics
**LG 48X CD-RW CD Writer + DVD Drive**
On-Board Sound & 120W Speakers
On-Board 10/100 Network Card
16" Front USB Tower w/ 300W Power
Optical Wheel Mouse & Internet Keyboard
1.44MB Panasonic Floppy Drive
(add $190 upgrade to LG 15" LCD Display)

**$829**

## 2.4G Best Value

**Intel Pentium 4 2.4GHz 800MHz FSB**

with Intel P4 Hyper Threading Technology
**LG 17" T710BH 1280x1024 CRT Monitor**
ASUS P4S800 (800MHz FSB) Mainboard
512MB PC3200 DDR400 Memory
80GB Maxtor ATA133 7200rpm Drive
**ATI Radeon 9200 128MB DDR Graphics**
**LG 48X CD-RW CD Writer + DVD Combo**
3D Sound & 400W Sub-woofer Speakers
10/100 Network Card on-board
16" USB Tower w/ Young Year 300W Power
Optical Wheel Mouse & Internet Keyboard
1.44MB Panasonic Floppy Drive
(add $190 upgrade to LG 15" LCD Display)

**$1049**

## 2.8G POWER

**Intel Pentium 4 2.8GHz 800MHz FSB**

with Intel P4 Hyper-Threading Technology
**LG 15" LCD L1511S 1024x768 LCD**
ASUS P4S800 (800MHz FSB) Mainboard
512MB PC3200 DDR400 Memory
**WD 80GB 8MB Cache 7200rpm Hard Drive**
**ASUS V9520-Magic 128MB AGP8X Video**
**LG 52X24X52X CD-RW CD Writer**
LG 16X DVD-ROM IDE Drive
3D Sound & 400W Sub-woofer Speakers
10/100 Network Card on-board
18" USB Tower w/ Young Year 300W Power
Optical Wheel Mouse & Internet Keyboard
1.44MB Panasonic Floppy Drive

**$1399** with LCD

## THE3G

**Intel Pentium 4 3GHz 800MHz FSB**

with Intel P4 Hyper Threading Technology
**LG 15" LCD L1511S 1024x768 LCD Display**
ASUS P4P800 (800MHz) Intel Chipset Board
**1GB (2x512) Dual Channel DDR400 Memory**
**WD 120GB 8MB Cache 7200rpm Hard Drive**
**ASUS V9520/TD/8X GeForceX-5200 128MB**
LG 52X24X52X CD-RW CD Writer
LG 16X DVD-ROM IDE Drive
3D Sound & 400W Sub-woofer Speakers
10/100 Network Card on-board
16" USB Tower w/ **Enermax 350W Power**
Optical Wheel Mouse & Internet Keyboard
1.44MB Panasonic Floppy Drive

**$1829** with LCD

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**Monitor**

| | |
|---|---|
| LG T710BH 17" FLAT CRT Monitor | $ 179 |
| Samsung 150N 15" LCD (Ivory) | $ 380 |
| Samsung 171N 17" LCD (Silver) | $ 600 |
| NEC LCD7V 17" LCD | $ 500 |
| Viewsonic VE500 15" LCD | $ 380 |
| Viewsonic E70F 17" FLAT CRT | $ 180 |
| Viewsonic P95F+ 19" FLAT CRT | $ 380 |
| Samsung 955DF 19" FLAT CRT | $ 308 |

**Motherboard**

| | |
|---|---|
| ASUS A7V8X-X AGP8XAMD | $ 99 |
| ASUS P4C800-E-Deluxe P4 | $ 280 |
| ASUS A7N8X-X AMD | $ 120 |
| ASUS A7N8X-Deluxe AMD | $ 185 |
| ASUS P4PE-X P4 BSPE DDR | $ 119 |

**Hard Drive Sale**

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|---|---|
| 40GB Maxtor ATA133 7200rpm | $ 80 |
| 80GB Maxtor ATA133 7200rpm | $ 106 |
| 120GB Maxtor ATA133 7200rpm | $ 140 |
| 40GB WD 8MB Cache 7200rpm | $ 90 |
| 80GB WD 8MB Cache 7200rpm | $ 122 |
| 120GB WD 8MB Cache 7200rpm | $ 158 |
| 36GB WD 8MB Serial ATA 10Krpm | $ 220 |
| Seagate 120GB SerialATA 7200rpm | $ 180 |

**Video Card**

| | |
|---|---|
| ATI RADEON 9000 PRO 128MB | $ 115 |
| ATI RADEON 9200 128MB DVI | $ 109 |
| ATI RADEON 9600 128MB DVI | $ 179 |
| ATI RADEON 9800 PRO 128MB | $ 490 |
| ASUS V9520/Magic 8X 128MB | $ 115 |
| WinFast XP TV Tuner w/ remote | $ 89 |
| Firewire DV Video Capture Package | $ 38 |

**CD/DVD/CD-RW/DVD-RW**

| | |
|---|---|
| LG 52x24x52x CD-RW | $ 58 |
| Lite-On 52x24x52x CD-RW | $ 60 |
| LG COMBO DVD + 48X CD-RW | $ 88 |
| Pioneer 106 DVD-RW Writer (OEM) | $ 245 |
| Pioneer 508 DVD+/-RW Writer | $ 338 |
| LG 16X DVD-ROM | $ 40 |
| SONY 16X DVD-ROM | $ 50 |
| Pioneer 16X DVD-ROM | $ 55 |

**Wireless Network Sale**

| | |
|---|---|
| Linksys Wireless-G 4-pt Router | $ 155 |
| Linksys Wireless-G Notebook Card | $ 99 |
| Linksys Wireless-B 4-port Router | $ 95 |
| Linksys Wireless-B USB Adapter | $ 78 |
| Linksys Wireless-B Notebook Card | $ 75 |
| Linksys Wireless Compact Flash | $ 88 |
| Linksys 4-port Internet Router | $ 78 |
| Aspen 10/100 PCI Network Card | $ 15 |

**Tower Case**

| | |
|---|---|
| 18" Front USB 8-bay Tower 300W | $ 48 |
| Black Tower w/ side case fan 300W | $ 75 |
| Silver Aluminum USB Tower 300W | $ 88 |
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| ANTEC SONATA Gamer 380W | $ 158 |
| ANTEC LANBOY Aluminum 350W | $ 135 |

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| Samsung 171N LCD | $589 |

**DVD±RW Writer**

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| SONY DWU14A | $285 |
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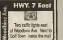
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### Pentium 4 @ 2.4 GHz

W/512 L2 Cache

P4 s478 Integrated MB
w/4x agp, 4 USB 2.0 ports
256 Meg DDR Memory
80 GB ATA 133 Hard Drive
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52x CD Re- Writer included
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32MB Savage4 DDR Video o/b
10/100 Network Card
16 Bit Sound O/B
Amplified Speakers
PS/2 Mouse
104 Win Keyboard
17" LG 700 Color Monitor
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3 Months Free AOL Internet Offer

### Pentium 4 @ 2.4C GHz

Asus P4S800 800Mhz FSB MB
w/8x agp, USB2.0, Crash Free Bios
512 DDR Memory PC333
80 GB 7200 rpm Hard Drive
1 44 Floppy Drive
350W Mini Tower
8x 64MB Geforce4 MX440 Video w TV/O
Internet Keyboard
Optical Scroll Mouse
6ch, 24 Bit on Board Sound
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800 Mhz FSB
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120GB ATA 133 7200 rpm Hard Drive
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ATI Radeon 8x 9200 128 Meg Ram w TV/O
MS Internet Keyboard
Logitech Optical Scroll Mouse
Creative SB Audigy Sound w/Firewire
52x LG CDRW w/Software
16x LG DVD Rom Drive, 10/100 Lan
Altec Lansing AVS300 Speakers
19" Samsung Flat Color Monitor
Win XP CD/License, MS Works Suite 2003
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## UPGRADES

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**www.hotspotlist.com**
**www.wifinder.com**

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**www.multimap.com**
**www.mapquest.com**

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**www.healthclubs.com**

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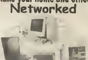

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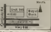

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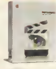

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HUB's digital video contest Entry Form. Deadline February 23rd, 2004

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Title of Video...... .......... ... ........... .......... ..................
Camera used to film your video... ....................................
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Fax:416.975.0291

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Fax:905.889.6063

**Scarborough**
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unit #B1
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Fax:416.335.3300

## SUPER SPECIAL

**$329**

INTEL P4 CELERON 1.8GB CPU
ASROCK M266 MB 128 MB DDR
30GB 7200RPM HDD
52X CD-ROM 1.44 FLOPPY DRIVE
32M AGP VIDEO CARD(SHARED)
32 BIT SOUND CARD
10/100 NETWORK CARD
ATX MID TOWER CASE
104 KEYBOARD/MOUSE
80W SPEAKERS

## BEST DEAL

**$609**

INTEL P4-1.8G CPU
ASROCK M266 MB, 256 MB DDR
30GB 7200RPM HDD
52X CD_ROM, 10/100 NETWORK CARD
32M AGP VIDEO CARD(SHARED)
32BIT SOUND CARD 1.44 FLOPPY
ATX MID TOWER CASE
104 KEYBOARD/MOUSE
120W SPEAKERS
**17" SVGA MONITOR**

## NEW RELEASE

**$459**

AMD XP 2200+ CPU
ASROCK K7VM2 MB 256M DDR
40GB 7200RPM HDD
52X24X52 CD_RW 1.44 FLOPPY DRIVE
32M AGP VIDEO CARD(SHARED)
32 BIT SOUND CARD
10/100 NETWORK CARD
600W SPEAKERS WITH SUBWOOFER
ATX MID TOWER WITH 300W POWER SUPPLY
INTERNET KEYBOARD/WHEEL MOUSE

***ALL SYSTEMS WITH FIVE YEARS LABOUR & ONE YEAR PARTS WARRANTY ***

## DIAMOND SYSTEM

**$829**

INTEL P4-2.4G CPU(533 FSB)
ASUS P4S533-X MB 256 MB DDR
80GB 7200RPM HDD 1.44 FLOPPY
16X DVD/48X24X48 CD_RW COMBO
ATI RADEON7000 64M VIDEO CARD
10/100 NETWORK CARD,
32BIT SOUND CARD, ATX MID TOWER
600W SPEAKERS WITH SUBWOOFER
INTERNET KEYBOARD/ WHEEL MOUSE
**17" SAMSUNG 753DF FLAT SCREEN**

## MONTHLY SPECIAL

| | |
|---|---|
| *15" TFT LCD* | *$319* |
| *17" TFT LCD* | *$455* |
| *LG 15" 1511S TFT LCD* | *$355* |
| *SAMSUNG 15" 151S TFT LCD* | *$369* |
| *SAMSUNG 17" 170N (AFTER $50 REB)* | *$485* |
| *W.D. 40GB 8MCACHE HDD* | *$93* |
| *W.D. 80GB 8MCACHE HDD* | *$114* |
| *SEAGATE 120GB 7200RPM HDD* | *$127* |
| *NEC DVD±RW 4X(OEM)* | *$229* |
| *ATI RADEON 9200SE 128M AGP* | *$79* |

** WITH SYSTEM PURCHASE ONLY**

## MAGMA SYSTEM

**$1039**

INTEL P4-2.4G CPU(533 FSB)
ASUS P4PE MB 256 MB DDR
80GB 7200RPM HDD 1.44 FLOPPY
16X DVD 52X24X52 CD_RW
GEFORCE4 128M VIDEO CARD
CREATIVE S.B. LIVE 5.1 10/100 NETWORK CARD
300W SPEAKERS WITH SUBWOOFER
ATX MID TOWER WITH P4 POWER SUPPLY
LOGITECH KEYBOARD/OPTICAL WHEEL MOUSE
**19" SAMSUNG 950B MONITOR**

** ALL PRICE ARE ALREADY 3% CASH DISCOUNTED, PRICE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE **

## NOTEBOOKS

| **TOSHIBA** | **FUJITSU** |
|---|---|
| *SATELLITE A10* | *LIFEBOOK S2010B* |
| INTEL PENTIUM 4 2.0GB | AMD ATHLON XP1900+ |
| 512MB DDR-SDRAM | 256MB DDR-SDRAM |
| 40GB HDD | 40GB HDD |
| 15" TFT LCD | 13.3" TFT LCD |
| DVD/CD_RW COMBO | DVD/CD_RW COMBO |
| 56K MODEM | 56K MODEM |
| 10/100 NETWORK CARD | 10/100 NETWORK CARD |
| WIRELESS NIC | WIRELESS NIC |
| MS WINDOWS XP HOME | MS WINDOWS XP HOME |
| **$1799** | **$1699** |

SAMSUNG

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***SAMSUNG MONITOR***

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|---|---|---|---|
| *15" 151S TFT* | *$387* | *21" 1100P CRT* | *$819* |
| *15" 150N TFT* | *$379* | *19" 191T TFT* | *$665* |
| *15" 152T TFT* | *$484* | *19" 191N TFT* | *$799* |
| *17" 170N TFT* | *$539* | *17" 750S CRT* | *$152* |
| *17" 171N TFT* | *$549* | *17" 753DF CRT* | *$187* |
| *17" 171P TFT* | *$699* | *17" 763MB CRT* | *$195* |
| *17" 170MP TFT* | *$779* | *19" 950B CRT* | *$206* |
| *17" 172T TFT* | *$678* | *19" 955DF CRT* | *$269* |

***SAMSUNG LASER PRINTER***
***ML1780 LASER PRINTER $275***

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### Mainboard

| | |
|---|---|
| ASUS P4P533_GL | $156 |
| ASUS P4S533_X/MX | $83 / $80 |
| ASUS P4SDX | $117 |
| ASUS P4S8X | $86 |
| ASUS P4B533 | $112 |
| ASUS P4P8X | $135 |
| ASUS P4PE_X | $109 |
| ASUS P4PE_L/ GBL | $129/$177 |
| ASUS P4G8X DX | $196 |
| ASUS P4S800 | $119 |
| ASUS P4C800 DX | $249 |
| ASUS P4C800_E_DX | $289 |
| ASUS P4P800 / DX | $169/$195 |
| ASUS P4P800 VM | $149 |
| ASUS A7S333 | $82 |
| ASUS A7V266_E_AA | $77 |
| ASUS A7V8X_X_1394 | $90 /$109 |
| ASUS A7N266 VM_AA | $94 |
| ASUS A7N8X_X/_VM | $115/$147 |
| ASUS A7N8X/ DX | $134/$179 |
| ASUS A7V600 | $124 |
| MSI KT4/ULTRA | $106/$142 |
| ASROCK K7VM2 | $79 |
| ECS K7S5A PRO | $79 |

### Video Card

| | |
|---|---|
| ATI ALL IN-WON 64M R7500 | $109 |
| ATI ALL IN-W 64M R9000 P | $229 |
| ATI ALL IN-W 128M R9700 P | $489 |
| ATI ALL IN-W 128M R9800 P | $547 |
| ATI R7000 64M (O) | $48 |
| ATI R7500 64M (O) | $67 |
| ATI R9000 PRO 128M(O) | $96 |
| ATI R9100 128M(O) | $103 |
| ATI R9000 128M(O) | $104 |
| ATI R9200 SE 128M(O) | $79 |
| ATI R9600 128M(O) | $109 |
| ATI R9600 PRO 128M(O) | $212 |
| ATI R9800 128M(O) | $319 |
| ATI R9800 PRO 128M(O) | $495 |
| ATI R9800 PRO 256M(O) | $619 |
| ASUS V8170SE 64M MX440 | $78 |
| ASUS V8180 MAGIC 64M | $93 |
| ASUS V9180 SV 128M | $90 |
| ASUS V9280 TD 128M | $182 |
| ASUS V9480 TD 128M | $235 |
| ASUS V9520 MAGIC 128M | $113 |
| ASUS V9520 TD 128M | $129 |
| ASUS V9560 TD 128M | $249 |
| ASUS V9900 TD 128M | $369 |

### Hard Drive

| DE HDD | 7200 RPM | SERIAL ATA |
|---|---|---|
| MAXTOR | | |
| 30GB | $75 | |
| 40GB | $82 | |
| 60GB | $90 | |
| 80GB | $90 | $149 |
| 120GB | $139 | $179 |
| W.D. | | |
| 40GB | $83 | |
| 40GB (8M) | $87 | |
| 80GB | $97 | |
| 80GB (8M) | $104 | |
| 80GB | $99 | |
| 80GB (8M) | $114 | |
| 120GB | $132 | $179 |
| 120GB (8M) | $146 | |
| 200GB (8M) | $289 | |
| 250GB | | $479 |
| SEAGATE | | |
| 80GB | $102 | $166 |
| 120GB | $127 | $186 |
| 140GB | | $257 |

### Printer

| | |
|---|---|
| CANON | |
| I260 | $67 |
| I320 | $79 |
| I550 | $105 |
| I560 | $164 |
| SAMSUNG | |
| ML_1250 | $249 |
| ML_1710 | $279 |
| ML_1750 | $275 |
| EPSON | |
| C62UX | $83 |
| C62 | $90 |
| C82 | $140 |
| LEXMARK | |
| Z45SE | $66 |
| X75 | $140 |
| HP | |
| 3320 | $80 |
| 3820 | $129 |

### CD/DVD/CD RW

| | |
|---|---|
| LG 52X CDROM | $24 |
| SONY 52X | $27 |
| LG 16X DVD | $47 |
| LITEON 16X DVD | $52 |
| SONY 16X DVD | $54 |
| PIONEER 16X DVD | $60 |
| LG 52X24X52 CD_RW | $63 |
| SONY 52X24X52 CD_RW | $67 |
| LITEON 52X24X52 CD_RW | $62 |
| LG 16X DVD/48244B COMBO | $79 |
| PIONEER DVD±RW A06(R) | $305 |
| LG DVD±RW 4X(R) | $279 |
| SONY DVD±RW(OEM) | $317 |
| SONY DVD±RW(RETAIL) | $445 |
| SONY DVD±RW(EXTENAL) | $578 |
| PANASONIC DVD±RW(O) | $249 |

### Sound Card

| | |
|---|---|
| 32BIT PCI SOUND CARD | $18 |
| 64BIT PCI SOUND CARD | $22 |
| S.B. 128 PCI | $29 |
| S.B. LIVE 5.1 OEM PCI | $44 |
| S.B. AUDIGYII OEM PCI | $89 |
| S.B. AUDIGYII MP3+(R) | $131 |
| S.B. AUDIGYII PLATINUM | $269 |

### Modem

| | |
|---|---|
| AOPEN 56K PCI | $26 |
| AOPEN 56K PCI H.W | $39 |
| USR 56K PCI | $38 |
| USR 56K PCI H.W | $69 |
| USR 56K PCI H.W./VOICE | $89 |

### Ethernet

| | |
|---|---|
| 10/100 ETHERNET PCI | $14 |
| LINKSYS 10/100 NIC PCI | $20 |
| DLINK 10/100 NIC PCI | $20 |
| 3COM 10/100 905C TX NIC | $60 |
| DLINK 10/100 5PORTS HUB | $64 |
| DLINL 10/100 8PORTS HUB | $82 |
| DLINK 4 PORTS ROUTER | $56 |
| U.S.R. 4PORTS ROUTER | $79 |
| LINKSYS 4 PORT ROUTER | $80 |
| LINKSYS 8 PORT ROUTER | $135 |
| LINKSYS 802.11B ROUTER | $139 |
| LINKSYS 802.11G ROUTER | $159 |
| LINKSYS 802.11B ADAPTER | $80 |
| LINKSYS 802.11G ADAPTER | $95 |
| USB2+FIREWARE EXT BOX | $80 |

### Upgrade Kit

1. **INTEL CELERON 1.7G CPU + P4 MOTHERBOARD $199**
2. **INTEL P4 2.4GB + ASUS P4S533-X MOTHERBOARD $329**
3. **AMD XP 2000+ + ECS K7S5A PRO MOTHERBOARD $179**

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PENTIUM 4 533Mhz M B
256MB MEMORY
40 GB HDD 7200 RPM
52X24X52 CD-RW / 1 44 FDD
32MB AGP 4X VIDEO
SOUND & LAN ONBOARD
PS II KEYBOARD / MOUSE
ATX 350W MID TOWER P4 CASE
* SAMSUNG 19" 955DF +$149
Special

**CELERON 1 7 GHZ $339**
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256MB MEMORY
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32MB AGP 4X VIDEO
SOUND ONBOARD
52X CD ROM DRIVE
1 44 FLOPPY DRIVE
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PS/II KEYBOARD / MOUSE
ATX MID TOWER CASE

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PS/II KEYBOARD MOUSE
650W SUBWOOFER SPEAKERS
ATX 350W FRONT USB P4 CASE
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Special

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30 GB HDD ATA133
SIS 730 VIDEO ON BOARD
SOUND ONBOARD
52X CD-ROM DRIVE
1 44 FLOPPY DRIVE
10/100 ETHERNET ONBOARD
PS/II KEYBOARD MOUSE
ATX MID TOWER CASE

## LAPTOP Special

| | |
|---|---|
| **ECS-A928** | $1249 |
| 14" TFT C 1 4 G 256M 40G DVD | |
| **ASUS D1** | $1399 |
| 15" TFT P4-2.4 G / 256M 40GB DVD-CDRW / 1394 PCMCIA | |
| **ECS-G733** | $1459 |
| 15" TFT P4-2 4 G / 256M / 40GB DVD+CDRW 1394 / PCMCIA | |
| **ECS-A732** | $1959 |
| 15" TFT P4 2 4G / 256M ATI 64M DVD CDRW 40G 1394 PCMCIA | |

## MONITOR

| | |
|---|---|
| **SAMSUNG** | |
| 17" 753DF | $173 |
| 19" 955DF | $285 |
| 15" LCD 150N | $375 |
| 17" LCD 170N | $579 |
| **LG** | |
| 15" LCD 1515S | $379 |
| 17" LCD 786LS | $599 |
| **NEC** | |
| 15" LCD 1560V+ | $409 |
| 17" LCD 1760NX | $699 |
| **MONTHLY SPECIAL** | |
| 17" FLAT MONITOR | $155 |
| 15" SCEPTRE X5 LCD | $349 |
| 17" Albatron L17AS LCD | $479 |

**PENTIUM-4 1 8 GHZ $549**
ASUS P4S533-X M/B
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SOUND ONBOARD
48X16X48 CD-RW/1 44 FDD
10/100 NETWORK
PS/II KEYBOARD / MOUSE
ATX 350W CASE SPEAKERS
* $20 GIFT *

**AMD ATHLON XP 2000+ $399**
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40 GB HDD 7200 RPM
SIS 64MB VIDEO CARD
SOUND ONBOARD
52X CD-ROM DRIVE
1 44 FLOPPY DRIVE
10/100 ETHERNET ONBOARD
PS/II KEYBOARD MOUSE
ATX MID TOWER CASE

## DVD / CDRW / DVDRW

| | |
|---|---|
| 16X DVD | $45 |
| 52X24X52 CD-RW | $55 |
| LG 48X24X48X16 CDRW / DVD | $85 |
| LG DVD-RW &DVD-/+RW | $199/$259 |
| NEC DVD-/+RW 4X | $275 |
| SONY DVD-/+RW 4X | $289/$429 |
| Pioneer DVD-RW 4X | $289/$349 |

## HARD DRIVE

| | |
|---|---|
| 30GB 40GB 60GB | $73/$85/$105 |
| 80GB 120GB 200GB | $115/$149/$319 |
| 60GB 80G 120G IBM | $129/$139/$169 |
| 160GB 200GB IBM | $265/$369 |
| QUANTUM SCSI 10000 RPM | |
| 18GB 36GB | $269 $399 |

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512 MB DDR RAM
60 GB HDD 7200 RPM
64M AGP 4X VIDEO
SoundMax Digital Audio & LAN
48X16X48 CD-RW 1 44 FDD
PS/II KEYBOARD / MOUSE
ATX 350W CASE SPEAKERS
* $20 GIFT *

**AMD ATHLON XP 2400+ $509**
ASUS A7V8X-X MAINBOARD
256 MB DDR RAM
60 GB HDD 7200 RPM
SIS 64 MB VIDEO CARD
SOUND ONBOARD
48X16X48 CD-RW 1 44 FDD
10 100 NETWORK CARD
PS/II KEYBOARD MOUSE
ATX 350W CASE SPEAKERS
* $20 GIFT *

## VIDED CARD

| | |
|---|---|
| ECS 64MB VIDEO CARD | $39 |
| GEFORCE 4 MX-440 64M DDR | $65 |
| ATI Radeon 9200 128M DDR | $89 |
| ATI Radeon 9600 128M/256M | $179/209 |
| ATI Radeon 9800 Pro 128M | $499 |
| ATI all-in w Radeon 7500 64M | $179 |
| ATI all-in-w R9000 Pro 128M | $540 |
| MSI TV@nywhere TV TUNER | $75 |
| Leadtek TV 2000XP TV TUNER | $85 |

## NETWORKING

| | |
|---|---|
| 10/100 LAN CARD | $10 |
| D-LINK DI-604 ROUTER | $59 |
| SMC WIRELESS ROUTER | $89 |
| NETWORK CABLE | $0.30 / FOOT |

**PENTIUM-4 2.4 GHZ 17" FLAT MONITOR $829**
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80 GB HDD 7200RPM
52X24X52 CD-RW 1 44 FDD
GEFORCE 4 MX 440 64M TVOUT
SOUND & LAN ONBOARD
Multimedia KB & Wheel Mouse
ATX 350W CASE SUBWOOFER
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**AMD ATHLON XP 2400+ 17" FLAT MONITOR $719**
ECS K7S5A PRO M/B (USB 2 0)
512MB DDR RAM
80 GB HDD 7200RPM
52X24X52 CD-RW / 1 44 FDD
GEFORCE 4 MX-440 64M TVOUT
SOUND & LAN ONBOARD
Multimedia KB & Wheel Mouse
ATX 350W CASE SUBWOOFER
* Samsung 19" 955DF —— +$139 *

## UPGRADE KITS

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SOUND & LAN ONBOARD
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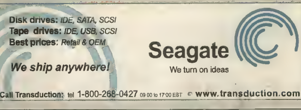

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Submit your photographs, along with the information from the form below, by October 8th, 2003. You can submit up to three photographs, all of which must be accompanied by a [illegible] form. [illegible] be submitted via e-mail. Files should be no bigger than 500 KB [illegible] per e-mail.

Contest Rules: Prizes must be claimed by November 8th, 2003. Winners [illegible] provide valid identification [illegible]. The prizes awarded are not [illegible] not be redeemed for [illegible] to be eligible to win, persons must be residents of Canada, and not employees of [illegible] Paper [illegible] an affiliate corporation, or [illegible] agencies. The [illegible] by HUB on October 10th, 2003 from [illegible] of eligible entries received on or [illegible] contest close date. [illegible] by telephone or e-mail. [illegible] for the [illegible] submitted by their artist and [illegible] work.

HUB's Photo Spree contest form. All submissions must contain this information. Send to contest@hubcanada.com

Deadline: October 8th, 2003
Name: ..........
Address: ..........
E-Mail: ..........
Phone Number: ..........
Age: ..........
Occupation/School: ..........
Title of Entry: ..........
Camera Used: ..........
Software Used: ..........

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|---|---|
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| BenQ 5300U 1200dpi USB | $86 |
| more... Www.compu-best.com | |

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|---|---|
| PINE FM sound card | $16 |
| S.B. 128-BI PCI OEM | $23 |
| S.B. Live 5.1 | $43 |
| S.B. Audigy Mx3 | $124 |
| S.B. Audigy Gamer | $128 |

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|---|---|
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| HP DeskJet 3420 | $60 |
| Canon S330 | $82 |
| Epson Stylus C42UX | $66 |
| Samsung Laser 1750 | $268 |

**Speaker**

| | |
|---|---|
| Creative Inspire4 1.4400 | $[illegible] |
| Altec Lansing AVS300 | $32 |
| Creative Inspire 2600 | $59 |

**Case**

| | |
|---|---|
| ATX 350W w/USB port | $36 |
| ATX 350W w/light | $49 |
| Antec lanboy more | $119 |
| ATX Server Case | $105 |

**MainBoard**

| | |
|---|---|
| MSI KT4V-L | $96 |
| Asus A7V8X-X | $96 |
| Asus A7N8X-DX | $183 |
| Asus P4C800-DX | $266 |
| Asus P4P800-DX | $189 |
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| 40GB HDD 7200rpm | +$23 |

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ATI Radeon 9000Pro 128MB
LG 52X24X52 CDRW
LG 16X DVD OEM
10/100 NIC / 1.44FDD
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| | |
|---|---|
| 512MB PC-2100 | +$30 |
| 80GB Harddisk 7200RPM | +$33 |
| 48X12X48 CD-RW Retail | +$35 |

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| 512MB DDR PC-2700 | +$49 |

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**Hard Drive**

| | |
|---|---|
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| 80G Seagate 7200RPM | $110 |
| 80G Maxtor 7200RPM | $118 |
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**Monitor**

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|---|---|
| Samsung 17 753DF | $170 |
| Samsung 19 955DF | $280 |
| Samsung 18 LCD 180N | $[illegible] |
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**Networking**

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| St 56K FAX Modem | $14 |
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|---|---|
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| ATI Radeon 9600Pro 128MB | $[illegible] |
| AsusGF FX5200TD128MB | $138 |
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| Mid Tower ATX 300W case | Mid Tower ATX 300W Case | LG 52X CDRW DVD COMBO |
| PS/2 Keyboard Mouse | PS/2 Keyboard, Mouse | Mid Tower ATX 300W Case |
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| Maxtor 40GB 7200 HDD | $89 |
| Maxtor 60GB 7200 HDD | $105 |
| Maxtor 80GB 7200 HDD | $115 |
| Maxter 120GB 7200 HDD | $149 |
| Seagate 120GB **SATA** HDD | $196 |
| Seagate 160GB **SATA** HDD | $279 |
| W.D 36GB 10k **SATA** HDD | $219 |
| W.D 40GB 7200 JB HDD | $99 |
| W.D 60GB 7200 JB HDD | $139 |
| W.D 120GB 7200 JB HDD | $169 |
| W.D 200GB 7200 JB HDD | $309 |
| W.D 250GB 7200 JB HDD | $449 |
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| ATI Radeon 9600pro 128MB | $239 |
| ATI Radeon 9700pro 128MB | $459 |
| ATI AIW 9800pro 128MB Box | $529 |
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| SB Audigy2 6.1 VAR S.C | $109 |
| 56K PCI V.92 Modem | $19 |
| LG 52X24X52 CDRW | $89 |
| LG 48x COMBO | $89 |
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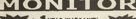

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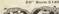

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| LG 52x CDRW | 40GB HDD 7200rpm | 80GB HD 7200rpm | 120GB WD HD |
| Samsung 1.44 KB, MC | DVD Rom, Floppy | LG 52x CD RW | DVD/CDRW Combo |
| Onboard Sound, VGA, | Video Excel/ G4 | 1.44 Floppy | ATI Radeon 9200 128MB |
| Sound, Lan, USB 2.0 | KB& MC, Lan | ATI Radeon 9000 | Wireless MC & KB |
| P4 ATX Mid Tower | SoundMax Digital Audio | Mouse & Keyboard | P4 ATX Mid Tower |
| | P4 ATX Mid Tower | P4 ATX Mid Tower | w/front USB 2.0 |
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| 2.0 Celeron........$349 | XP2200+........$511 | P4 2.66........$842 | P4 2.6C........$1034 |
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|---|---|
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| Maxtor 80/120 | $111.00/$149.00 |
| Seagate 30/40 | $84.70/$87.00 |
| Seagate 80/120 | $109.00/$189.00 |
| WD 40/60 | $87.30/115.50 |
| WD 80/120 | $127.60/176.55 |
| WD 8M 40/60 | $100.10/127.00 |
| WD 8M 80/120 | $122.00/157.00 |
| **Speakers** | |
| **Altec Lansing** ATP3W | $88.00 |
| **Altec Lan** 221/2100CN | $56.90/106.00 |
| **Creative** Inspire 2.1 | $52.00 |
| **Creative** Megaworks | $317.90 |
| **Creative** Inspire 5.1 | $95.70 |
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| Z340/Z560/Z640 | $56.99/217.00/84.70 |
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| BENQ Digital Camera Dc300 | $62.15 |
| CREATIVE LABS WebCam | $36.85 |
| Samsung Dm101 | $179.50 |

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|---|---|
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| P4G8X DELUXE | $215.60 |
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|---|---|
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| Radeon 9800PRO 256M | $689.70 |
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| RADEON 9100 128MB | $106.70 |
| Radeon 9000Pro 128MB | $110.00 |
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| V9900TD | $424.60 |
| V9560TD/videosuite | $261.80/287.10 |
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| **Canon** LiDE20/LiDE30 | $82.49/138.59 |
| **Epson** Perfect1260 | $82.50 |
| **Epson** Perfect 1260 Photo | $118.00 |
| **Epson** Perfect 1660Phi Photo | $183.70 |
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| **HP** 3570CXI | $149.60 |

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| optical ELITE DUO | $104.50 |
| Freedom KB and MC | $61.50 |
| I-TOUCH | $58.85 |
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| **Nec** 17" LCD 1760VM | $735.90 |
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| **Samsung** 750s/753DF | $157.00/$164.00 |
| **Samsung** 19 inch 955DF | $284.00 |
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| LG E700B 17" | $192.50 |
| **Viewsonic** 17" E70F+SB | $195.00 |
| **Viewsonic** 15" LCD Ve155 | $415.00 |
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| **DLINK** 530TXS/538TX | $10.90/13.19 |
| **DLINK** DI-614+ | $120.00 |
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| **SB** Live 128/5.1 | $21.00/46.20 |
| **SB** Audigy ES-Inpur 5.1 | $149.60 |
| **Sound Blaster** Extrey Ext | $198.00 |

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|---|---|
| (check on Website) | |
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| 512MB DDR PC-333 | $117.00 |
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| **Sony** 52x | $27.00 |
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Monitor [illegible]

| | |
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| 17" LG [illegible] LCD Monitor | $ [illegible] |
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| [illegible] NEC A[illegible] .22h 1600 | $ [illegible] |
| 17" NEC [illegible] .26 1280 *PF | $ [illegible] |
| [illegible] NEC [illegible] .25 1600 *PF | $ [illegible] |
| [illegible] Samsung 753DF .2[illegible] 1280 | $ [illegible] |
| [illegible] Samsung [illegible] | $ [illegible] |

| MOTHERBOARDS Asus | |
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| P4P800-DX | $ 195 |
| P4P800-VM | $ 149 |
| P4S800 | $ 110 |
| P4S533-MX | $ 88 |
| P4S533-X | $ 88 |
| P4S8X-X | $ 109 |
| A7V8X-X | $ 95 |
| A7V8X-1394 | $ 130 |
| A7V8X-GRL | $ 176 |

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| P4D865PERL | $ 165 |
| P4D845GEBV2L | $ 186 |

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| ATI A-I-W Radeon 9800 Pro 128MB | $535 |
| ATI Radeon 7200 DDR 64MB TV | $ [illegible] |
| ATI Radeon 9600 Pro 128MB TV | $[illegible] |
| ATI Radeon 9800 DDR 128MB TV | $ [illegible] |
| ATI Radeon 9600 Pro DDR 128MB TV | $[illegible] |
| ATI Radeon 9800 Pro DDR [illegible] | $400 |
| ATI Radeon 9800 Pro DDR [illegible] VTD | $[illegible] |
| Asus 9480 TVD TI4800 128MB VIVO | $235 |
| Asus 9520 MAG FX5200 128MB TV | $106 |
| Asus 9520 TD FX5200 128MB DVI TV | $129 |
| Asus 9520 VG FX5200 128MB VIVO | $155 |
| Asus [illegible] TD-FX5600 128M DVI TV | $249 |
| Asus [illegible] VS FX5600 128MB VIVO | $250 |
| Asus [illegible] TD FX5600 128MB DVI TV | $[illegible] |

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| SMC Wireless USB Lan | $ [illegible] |
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| 2.5"USB 2.0 EXTERNAL HDD BOX | 35 |

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| Radeon 9000 pro DDR 128M AGP | 126 |
| Radeon 9600 pro 128M Dual Lite | 309 |
| Radeon 7000 64M [illegible] TVO | [illegible] |
| Radeon 7000 64M TVO | 45 |
| Asus 9520MA FX5200 128M/TVO | 109 |
| Asus 9520TD FX5200 128M/TVO/DVI | 129 |
| MSI FX5600-TD256 256M/TVO/DVI | 299 |
| ATI TV WONDER VE PCI | 50 |
| Geforce 4 MX440SE 64M DDR /TVO | 69 |
| Geforce [illegible] | [illegible] |

CDROM/CDRW/DVD

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|---|---|
| 56X Aopen CDROM | 2[illegible] |
| LG / Sony/Pioneer 16X DVD | 4[illegible] |
| AOPEN 52x24x52 CDR/W | 4[illegible] |
| LG /Sony 52X24X52 CDR/W | [illegible] |
| LG 4040B DVD-RW [illegible] | 228/[illegible] |
| Pioneer 106/A06 +/- DVDR/W | 288/[illegible] |

DIGITAL CAMERA

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| Canon PowerShot A[illegible] 3.2mp | 47[illegible] |
| Samsung DigiMax 380 3.2mp | 34[illegible] |
| Samsung DigiMax 420 4.2mp | 42[illegible] |
| [illegible] digital & web [illegible] 1.3mp | [illegible] |
| Web Camera | 25 |

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| 128 S.B PCI-5.1 LIVE 5 | 23/4[illegible] |
| S.B Audigy OEM | 7[illegible] |
| S.B Audigy 2 Platinum | [illegible] |
| ALTEC LANSING AVS300 | [illegible] |
| ALTEC LANSING AVS500 | [illegible] |
| CAMBRIDGE INSPIRE5400 | 69 |
| CAMBRIDGE INSPIRE5200 | 89 |

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|---|---|
| SAMSUNG | |
| LCD 15" 152S/170N | 375/595 |
| 17" 753DF/110" 955DF | 173/278 |
| BenQ | |
| LCD 15" FP567/17"FP767 | 349/505 |
| LG | |
| LCD 15" 1511S/1765S | 365/565 |

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|---|---|
| [illegible] 350 450 | 99/129 |
| EPSON C42UX/C82 | 60/125 |
| EPSON Photo 1280/825 | 119/14[illegible] |
| LEXMARK X75/X125 | 120/18[illegible] |
| HP 1000 LASER | 2[illegible] |
| HP PSC 1210 A-I-O USB | 149 |
| 56k V.92 Modem | 15 |
| 56K Aopen PCI | 19 |
| SMC 4 port router | 65 |

Clearance outlet

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|---|---|
| [illegible] 5022b DVD RW [illegible] | 17[illegible] |
| [illegible]GB Hitach notebook HDD | 139 |
| [illegible] USB Flash Drive 128M | 45 |
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| SAMSUNG 170N | $568 |
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# Getting personal

*Online dating site sees boom in Canadians seeking mates*

There was a time when online dating was regarded as a dangerous fringe activity, reserved only for social freaks who couldn't meet people the "normal" way offline. That stigma is evaporating, though. In fact, in many circles online dating is considered trendy. As Canadians become more comfortable with the Internet, they are becoming increasingly comfortable meeting people online.

Online personals, or dating services, are popping up everywhere, and Canadians are making good use of them. Yahoo! Canada recently launched Yahoo! Personals, an online community of mostly single adults looking for romance.

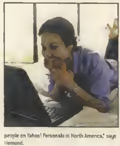
"[Online dating] is very popular right now in Canada. There are actually over 74 million unique users in Canada looking for love online. That represents about 44 percent of the total online population in Canada," says Isabelle Hemond, who heads the company's marketing and communications.

"It's so popular because it is a great alternative to regular dating. Many people don't feel comfortable or don't really like meeting people in bars or at gyms or in coffee shops, and this allows you to do it from the comfort of your home. Men like the fact that it's open 24/7 and women like the fact that you can control the communication and it's pressure-free," Hemond says.

"Between November 2002 and May 2003, the number of unique users on Yahoo! Canada personals grew by 51 percent — it's a huge trend, not only on Yahoo! but in the online world in Canada."

The company's personals service allows users to upload pictures of themselves with a short description, as well as voice and video clips. An updated search function allows users to look for potential matches by postal code, city, province, or by qualities such as physical features, alcohol consumption, and smoking habits.

"Any Canadian can meet an American because our database is North American. There are millions of people on Yahoo! Personals in North America," says Hemond.



The service has integrated its technologies, so people using the personals section can Instant Message (IM) or email each other for a monthly fee.

It also boasts testimonials from people who met using the service and are now married, living together, or engaged.

Hemond says safety concerns are the primary reasons some single Canadians are not making use of online personals.

"When you have a relationship online it is actually very secure because you are controlling the amount of information you give out."

The site includes a section that offers tips on safe dating, as well as an option to report any abuse to Yahoo! and to police.

By Jessica Malone

### Safety first: tips for online dating

- Create an email address through a free service like Hotmail or Yahoo! specifically for online dating. That way you can eliminate it easily if need be.
- If you decide to meet in person, tell a few close friends or family members where you're going and what time you expect to be home.
- Make arrangements to meet in a public place.
- Arrange your own transportation.
- Bring a cell phone.
- Never give out personal identifying information like a phone number or address online.
- Report any inappropriate or abusive behaviour to the company whose services you are using, as well as to police.

## Meet markets

Some other online dating sites that include Canadian listings (all allow users to create a profile and use basic services for free, charging a fee for additional features, and include heterosexual and same-sex listings)

**Canada.com**
The personals on this site (the mothership for all of the CanWest newspapers) are run by DreamMates. Unlike many other sites, you can't test the waters first: you have to dive right in by filling out a personal profile and agreeing to terms of a service agreement.

**Match.com**
In addition to personals, this site has gender-specific advice articles, such as "can you change him?" (for women) and "nude beach etiquette" (for men). Some other sites (such as MSN.com) have a branded version of Match.com.

**MSN.ca**
In Canada, Microsoft's online dating partner is LavaLife (its U.S. counterpart uses Match.com). In addition to a potential mate, you can search for a roommate using this site.

**Spring Street Networks**
If you're looking for a like-minded partner, why not make something you like, say an online magazine, your starting point? That appears to be the logic behind Spring Street Networks, which fuels many publication-branded dating sites, including those of Salon.com, Esquire, JANE Magazine and Nerve.com. The problem? Though you enter through different publications, they all access the same listings.

By Megan Johnston

# I want my MP3

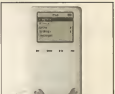
*A handful of portable audio options and accessories*

If you love music but don't want to be tied to your home stereo, it's hard to beat the new digital audio products. For a long time, people carted around portable cassette or CD players, which can be bulky

Thankfully, the new digital media players can store a lot of music in a very tiny form factor. In addition to portable CD players that also play MP3 format music, there are two other types available those using use flash memory and those that come with a hard drive inside

Flash-based players use the same memory technology you find in digital cameras, and like those cameras, sometimes the memory is built in and sometimes it's removable, in the form of memory card These players tend to come with 64 and 256 MB of memory, which can hold between one and eight hours of music, depending on your encoding Flash-based players tend to be much more compact, making them a good choice for active people

Players using hard-drives can store far more music; a player with a 30 GB hard drive may hold between 300 and 700 hours of music (again depending on your encoding) Because they include a notebook-sized hard drive, these players are bulkier than flash based players, but you do get to carry most of your music collection with you, everywhere you go This month we look at one of each type of player
In the upcoming months, we'll be looking at plenty more!



**iPod 30GB**
**Apple (www apple ca)**
**Estimated price $749**
The iPod has been the technolust item for digital music fans ever since it was introduced, and the new versions are unlikely to change that The top-of the-line iPod has a 30 GB hard drive (which can hold roughly 7,500 songs), but still maintains an ultra slim shirt pocket design The player is compatible with both Mac and Windows right out of the box, and while it comes with a FireWire docking cradle that connects it to your computer, a USB 2 0 cradle is also available (sold separately for about $60) This version and the 15 GB version ($599) each come with a carrying case and wired remote. The 10 GB version ($459) skips those items, and doesn't come with the dock. The user interface is still the most elegant out there thanks to the scroll wheel I found the operating system a bit buggy, requiring more frequent resets, especially after being in the dock for longer periods, the problem went away after upgrading the iPod's firmware, though. Despite the price premium, it's easily the best of the hard-drive based models currently available

**Other recent hard drive players.**
**Archos FM Recorder 20 (www archos.com)**
**Creative Nomad Zen (www.nomadworld com)**
**RCA Lyre Jukebox RD2821 (www lyrazone com)**

## Music and memory

**WaWa Marvel WMP-310+**
**www.pen-power.com**
**Estimated price: $189**

The versatility of the USB memory key style MP3 player was proven when Creative released the original MuVo but several other companies have released similar products WeWa's Marvel MP3 player, for example, also doubles as a 128 MB memory key and you can easily drag n drop your audio files straight onto the key using a compatible operating system (Windows 98 and up and a USB-compatible Mac) It's not as slick as the MuVo a bit bulkier, with a clunkier interface One annoyance is that it needs to be powered on to work as a memory key Still, the sound is good, it comes with an external FM headset, and also features a USB extension cable so you don't have to fish around behind the PC every time you want to hook it up The LCD handles both English and Chinese characters, and it has a microphone along one side so you can record voice memos using the free memory on the key It's powered by a single AAA battery

**Nomad MuVo NX**
**Creative**
**(www nomadworld com)**
**Estimated price: $230**

Creative's previous version of the Nomad MuVo was one of the tiniest digital audio players out there, fitting up to 128 MB of digital audio onto a USB key that turned into a digital audio player when inserted into the battery pack. The new MuVo NX not only adds an LCD window — so you can finally see what song is playing — but it also adds voice recording capabilities (up to eight hours) It uses one standard AA battery, which offers up to four hours of runtime The MuVo NX has 128 MB of memory, and a 256 MB version will ship later this year (for $300) One really nice thing about the MuVo NX bundle is the inclusion of a second battery pack, so you have your choice of colours, as well as a beltclip that can hook into the included sports armband

**Other flash-based portables:**
JOS MP-110
(www jensofsweden com)
Nike PSA[128max
(www nike-phillips com)
RioSPORT S35S
(www rioaudio.com)
Samsung Yepp YP-55V
(www samsung.ca)

By Sean Carruthers

# Accessorize your portable

A number of iPod accessories are available directly from Apple (check them out on Apple's Web site), and other manufacturers offer accessories for their MP3 players, but that doesn't mean you're limited to "official' products Below are some innovative add-ons from accessory makers

## iPod-specific

**Backup Battery Pack**
**Belkin (www.belkin com), US$70**

Though the battery on the iPod is designed to last up to 11 hours, sometimes that's just not enough This battery pack — which attaches to an iPod with suction cups and connects to the FireWire interface on the bottom of the new iPod models — uses four AA batteries to boost play time when the main battery is running low It comes with an on/off switch, so you can choose when to switch over to battery backup, and features LED indicator lights to show you how much power you have left in the battery pack (only when you press a button though, to save power). It more than doubles the physical size of your iPod though (from about 1.7 cm to 5 cm), but if it's all tucked away in a knapsack, you'll never notice

**iTrip**
**Griffin (www griffintechnology com), US$35**

If you don't want to mess around with a cassette adapter to play the music on your iPod over your car's sound system, the second generation iTrip allows you to broadcast directly to its FM radio The new iTrip hooks into the two-prong headphone/remote interface found on the latest iPods As before, the iTrip gets its power right from the iPod, but this one gives you far more choice as to which channel you can broadcast on, offering over 100 different choices via the menu on the iPod itself Even if the iTrip isn't compatible with other portable audio players, it works very well with the iPod.

## Suitable for many players

**Belkin TuneCast Mobile FM Transmitter**
**www belkin.com, US$40**

Listening to your MP3 player in the car has generally required a special connection on your car stereo or a wired cassette adapter There are now a few products that allow you to use a very short-range FM transmitter with your portable audio player, so you can simply listen to your music on the car's radio The TuneCast plugs into the head phone jack of any portable player, and broadcasts on four different frequencies between 88 1 and 88 7 MHz It's not the most versatile transmitter, but since it can be used with any portable — even CD or cassette players — it's a nice device to have around It requires two AAA batteries

**Creative I-Trigue L3500**
**(www creative com/speakers), $230**

A lot of us like to carry our portable audio players everywhere, especially on the long bus or subway ride to work If you have the luxury of playing music in your office once you get there, a small speaker set is a great add-on, especially if you have a hard drive-based player with an extensive library Creative's new I Trigue is a small, stylish 2 1 speaker set (two speakers, one subwoofer) with a twist It comes with a wired volume pod, which features a headphone jack, line in jack, and a special USB port (known as the M-Port) for connecting directly to compatible digital audio players (Creative's MuVo NX, for example)

**Etymotic ER-6 Isolator Earphones**
**(www.etymotic.com), $198**

Anyone who has purchased a portable audio player knows that, in most cases the headphones stink. If you're in the mood for a new set of headphones for your player, you may be tempted to grab a $30 special but if you have a few extra dollars and want something exceptional, take a look at Etymotic's ER 6 Isolator earphones. They are designed to fit right in the ear canal like a set of ear plugs (no surprise, as Etymotic also makes professional ear protection products) You have a choice of silicon or foam tips, both of which are included in the package It can be a bit disorienting at first, but with a proper seal, external noise is reduced by up to 15-20 decibels, giving you better sound at a much lower volume, which helps prevent ear damage The wires connecting to the player are pretty skinny, so you'll want to take care when using them Once you've mastered the art of properly inserting the Isolators you'll love the sound quality

By Sean Carruthers

## No clubs required

Can't stand to think of the coming winter and the end of golf season? It's not quite like the real thing and won't improve your swing but with a little imagination the greens on a computer screen can make the months pass more easily

**Palm4play 3D Golf & Hole Designer**
**www.palm4play.com**
Problem with your slice? The hole designer lets you design your own holes — including fairways, roughs, greens bunkers, streams, lakes, trees, and forests — on your Palm OS-based (version 3 5 or higher) handheld Then you can play them or 18 preset holes with the 3D golf simulator Once you've set up your perfect course you can beam it to your friends and challenge them to beat you on your own turf Try that in the real world

**Tiger Woods PGA Tour 2004**
**www.easports.com/games/tigerwoods2004**
Electronic Arts has a solid reputation for its sports division, and previous versions of Tiger Woods PGA Tour have been well reviewed The 2004 edition is slated for release in September for the PC Xbox Nintendo GameCube, and PlayStation 2, and features what EA calls the EA Sports Game Face, which the company says allows players to customize the appearance of their player right down to hairstyle and tattoos

By Sharlene Myers

# Technology rescues the duffer

### *Golf-training system uses virtual-reality modelling*

It's been more than 20 years since I last golfed and against my better judgement, I recently accepted an invitation to play a round with some executives of a high-tech company Despite my host's gracious words of "that's OK, we don't score higher than double-par," it was utter humiliation Prior to the drubbing, I had received a media kit on the Virtually Perfect Golf Learning System, and in a matter of a weekend, the package was transformed from just another press kit to a possible salve for my pain

As the name implies, the system uses virtual reality Central to it is a computerized wire frame model of a figure that performs a "perfect" golf swing According to Terry Jackson, chief operating officer of Toronto-based Virtually Perfect Golf Inc (www.virtuallyperfectgolf.com), that model is well-known Canadian golfer and golf instructor, the late Ben Kern He was fitted with sensors and filmed as he swung a golf club The resulting imagery was converted into a computerized model and further developed to demonstrate ideal form.

The definition of ideal is based on an approach to swing analysis developed by golfing legends Ben Hogan and George Knudsen

The second part of the system is the virtual reality glasses students wear as part of the training During the session, trainees are videotaped, and by donning the virtual reality glasses they see the wireframe superimposed on their video image The imagery is flipped so it looks like a mirror image to the student The wire frame is adjusted to conform with a variety of body shapes and heights

During each stage of a lesson — say one focusing on backswing — the model slowly performs the relevant portion of the swing, and students try to mimic it by adjusting the position of their torso, shoulders, arms, hips, legs, the club, etc , to match. This is done in real time, so students can see exactly how the various portions of their bodies are conforming to or deviating from the perfect swing as they perform the motion This provides instant and continuous feedback At least that's the theory Does it work? Virtually Perfect offered to take me through one session and let me come to my own conclusions The $99 one hour lesson package includes instruction from a CPGA pro plus time on the virtual reality system (available separately).

My impressions were that both aspects were useful, but for different reasons The instruction from the pro was the most immediately valuable for a person at my skill level When I picked up the game decades ago, I didn't take lessons. Friends showed me the basics but not the fine points so improvement was hit or miss, mostly miss. But within five minutes in front of the pro, he corrected three or four fundamental aspects of my technique The next time I went to the driving range, my performance was more erratic, but I felt I had a clearer idea of specific mechanical points And the few times I got it right, I drove the ball farther and straighter than before

The benefit of the virtual reality system is that it overcomes some of the limitations of verbal and written instruction With the VR system, rather than trying to follow sometimes confusing directions you merely adjust your body to conform to the template That in itself is not a trivial task, but the immediate and constant visual feedback is a genuine aid Plus it's non-verbal, which instructs a different part of your brain I was quite pleased with how quickly I learned to match my movements to the wire frame's

The VR feedback plus instructor's comments proved to be a powerful combination, but none of this will provide an instant fix. You still need to create muscle memory to see benefits on a real golf course — and for that, there's no substitute for practice, practice, practice.

Virtually Perfect Golf Inc presently operates a training centre at its headquarters in Toronto, but the technology has also been installed in London, Ont , Montreal, Que , and Niagara Falls, N Y Earlier this year, the company announced plans to franchise the system.

By David Tanaka

# Wireless 101

Every time you turn around these days, it seems someone is slinging the word "wireless" at you like it's supposed to mean something.

Since the word has several meanings, following is a quick guide to the various worlds of wireless:

## Cellular wireless

When you hear the word "wireless" on its own, it's is probably being used to refer to cellular phone technology —especially the ability of these new devices to send and receive data (email, text messages, and even Web surfing) in addition to making voice calls.

It doesn't matter whether you're using an actual cell phone or a cellular modem, because both can send and receive data. Trying to view data (Web pages or longer email messages) can be less than ideal on a tiny telephone screen, though.

Most Canadian cellular networks have been upgraded recently to "high speed," which means they can move more data faster. But high-speed, in this case, realistically means about 56 kilobits per second, roughly the same speed as the fastest dial-up connections using a telephone. There's talk of broadband connections over cellular, but it's not here quite yet.

There are two major types of high-speed cellular wireless in North America:

### CDMA 1x

The Code Division Multiple Access standard is more popular in North America than in the rest of the world, but here the networks are pretty prevalent, the 1x refers to the upgraded high-speed-capable data network. These phones come with built-in identification information, which means changing your number is a bit more complicated.

Both **Bell** and **Telus** use the CDMA 1x network.

### GPRS

General Packet Radio Service is more popular worldwide — especially in Asia and Europe — but it's worth noting that North American GPRS devices often use different radio frequencies and are often only partially compatible with other GPRS networks around the world.

GPRS devices use a user-replaceable SIM card for identification. Activation of a phone is typically as simple as changing SIM cards, which makes changing your number extremely easy, and it allows you to share one cell phone account among several different devices.

Both **Rogers** and **Fido** use a GPRS network.

A PC Card equipped handheld allows users to make voice calls and send and receive email wirelessly using CDMA (like this Telus combination) or GPRS networks.

## Wireless networking (aka WiFi)

Popularly known as WiFi, wireless networking has had a lot of attention lately, thanks to the proliferation of "hotspots" popping up in urban areas.

WiFi networking is starting to appear as standard gear in many new notebooks (especially those using Intel's new Centrino technology) and handhelds. But even if it's not built in, adding WiFi to an computer is as easy as installing a USB, PC Card, or internal WiFi adapter. Handhelds can add WiFi using CompactFlash or SecureDigital adapters.

The catch: to use WiFi, you will need a base station hooked into your office or home network, or you'll have to find a "hotspot" that is a public space with a WiFi base station.

Wireless networking comes in a few varieties as well:

### 802.11b

The string of numbers and letters refers to a specification approved by the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers). In this case, the specification is networking (802) wirelessly (11), version b.

It was the first of the wireless networking standards to gain a foothold in office and home environments, and is virtually synonymous with "WiFi" in most people's minds.

It can transfer data at up to 11 megabits per second (22 Mbps using a revised version of the standard). While many devices claim ranges up to 400 m from the base station, it's more realistic to expect ranges of 90 m or less (much less if you're working in an environment with a lot of walls).

### 802.11g

The 11g standard is picking up steam, and for good reason: it offers a much faster speed of 54 Mbps, but is also backwards compatible with 11b, so you don't have to replace 11b equipment. Keep in mind, though, that in a connection between 11b and 11g devices, you're limited to the slower 11b transfer rate. The range is about the same: 90 m.

### 802.11a

Released after 11b became popular, 11a is the forgotten child of the wireless networking. It sports a speed of 54 Mbps and bumps the radio frequency up from the crowded 2.4 GHz spectrum (which both 11b and 11g use) to 5 GHz. This, theoretically, eliminating interference from other devices. Unfortunately, the higher frequency means the radio waves have a much harder time getting through solid objects — like walls — meaning that 11a has a much shorter range than the other two. Consequently, 11a is mostly found in corporate environments.

A PC equipped with a wireless card (like this one from Linksys) can connect to the Internet and network printers wirelessly within range of a wireless hub

## Personal video recorder options

Personal video recorders (PVR) record a television signal onto a hard disk rather than to tape as with a VCR They let you pause, rewind fast forward and easily record a television signal. Here are a few options available today (a more detailed look can be found at www hubcanada com/pvr)

**Bell Express Vu 5800**
A satellite decoder and a PVR it records up to 55 hours of programming and costs $599 99 It is only available to Bell ExpressVu subscribers (monthly subscription fees start at $22)

**RCA Scenium DRS7005N**
It costs $799 99, but has a built in DVD player and works with both satellite and cable signals

**HP Media Centre**
A computer for the living room, this $2,399 unit will work like a PVR and serve as a digital entertainment hub

**Sony VAIO**
Similar to HP's PC but runs Sony's Giga Pocket software It works with both satellite and cable signals and has a list price of $2,099 99 (a $100 rebate is available until Sept 15)

**ATI TV-Wonder**
This video card converts your computer into a PVR and digital production workplace — and for only $119 *

**ATI All-in-Wonder cards**
This series of powerful video cards for your computer has built in TV tuners They range in price from $199 to $699 *

*** Installation is required. If you are not adept at tinkering around inside your PC, you many want to have it professionally installed.**

# Me and my PVR

I can't watch regular television anymore I have been spoiled. After nearly two years of using a personal video recorder (PVR), I need the control it gives me Now, when I watch television without a PVR, I get frustrated by not being able to pause the action, rewind, and — under the right conditions — fast forward or jump over commercials And it's not just me; my wife is exhibiting these symptoms too

The time-shifting device in question is the Model 5100 Satellite decoder/PVR from Bell ExpressVu It is currently the only satellite/cable TV company to offer a PVR in Canada, although other options are available (see sidebar) The 5100 is an early model and has been replaced by the 5800, which has twice the recording capacity and more features

For nearly two years I have been able to scroll through three days of programming and record what I want with two clicks of a button on the remote. I have been able to pause whatever I'm watching to answer the phone, get a drink, or whatever. I have been able to see sports replays before the TV producers can get them up on the air I can take these replays, pause them, then advance them frame by frame (how's that for armchair athletics?)

If I set things up correctly — again with one or two clicks on the remote — I can start to watch a program late, but from the beginning, and by skipping the commercials have the show end at the regular time

The PVR experience does have a few flaws. you can't, for example, record two shows at the same time With the Bell Express Vu PVR, specifically, you can't watch one show while recording another; the remote has an insatiable appetite for batteries (four AAAs at a time), you can't get a digital signal out of the PVR, so archiving is still limited to the ubiquitous VCR, and some programming doesn't respect the start and stop at-the-stroke-of the hour principle, so you have to manually enter the start and stop times, just like on a VCR

Though it doesn't exactly revolutionize the way you watch TV, the PVR does enhance the experience. Besides being a fun way to watch TV, it is practical, allowing you to skip commercials or see them again if they're particularly good
With very few players in the field and limited options, the technology is still fairly expensive Within the next couple of years, however, expect to see more set top boxes from other manufacturers and at greatly reduced prices

By Nestor Gula

## Where is my HDTV?

**Several persistent problems hinder the acceptance of HDTV — out of 11 million Canadian households with televisions, less than 20,000 are HDTV-ready Although there is more programming now than there was a year ago, it still doesn't amount to much TSN is only now starting to broadcast HDTV sports, including the U.S Open tennis tournament and some CFL football games An HDTV decoder will set you back about $600, an HDTV television costs several thousand dollars, and satellite and cable subscribers pay a premium for HDTV channels With the high costs and lack of programming, it's no wonder many consumers have adopted a wait-and see attitude**

**Command & control: PVRs allow users to take a station break when they want to.**

# Who's Ben Q and why is he in my living room?

For the longest time, plasma displays were only found in business settings, thanks to their exorbitant cost. Now that there's been a sharp decline in the price of plasma screens, it's becoming more common to see them in the living room. It's no real surprise that people want a plasma display as the centre piece of their home theatre setup: the screens are extremely thin compared to tube or projection televisions, they can be mounted onto the wall, and they are very bright. What's more, they're very versatile, with connections for all the standard video sources (S-Video, composite, and component) as well as connectors for computer video outputs.

**BenQ PDP-46WI plasma display**
**www.benq.com**
**Estimated price: US$4,000**

When it comes to the large plasma screens, most of them seem to settle on sizes of 42 or 50 inches diagonally. The 46-inch PDP-46WI splits the difference while maintaining the 16:9 widescreen ratio, meaning it's still a great choice for watching movies. The screen has a resolution of 852x480 pixels, so it's not quite up to the High Definition TV specification, though it can certainly translate HDTV signals to fit the screen.

The picture quality on the PDP-46WI is very good, with a very bright display, good colour reproduction, and a fantastic on-screen menu system. When you turn it on, it automatically hunts for a signal coming from any of the video inputs, but you also have the option of overriding this and selecting one manually. There are options in the menu system for adjusting the ratio of the picture (from the 16:9 widescreen ratio to the standard TV ratio of 4:3, for example), as well as selecting the type of input signal (NTSC, PAL, or SECAM, see sidebar). And although there aren't any speakers built into the display itself, audio inputs and speaker terminals are included, with 3D Audio WOW surround processing capabilities included.

The most welcome feature here is the pricing: after years of seeing plasma screens hovering between $10,000 and $20,000, the move earlier this year towards $8,000 and lower was certainly welcome. At US$4,000, this one is more likely to be closer to $6,000, if not lower, making it cheaper than ever to put a plasma screen into your living room.

By Sean Carruthers

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# The next revolution

*Two high-definition audio formats begin battle*

The CD has become so pervasive it's easy to forget it was once regarded with suspicion. We already have LPs and cassettes, some reasoned, and now we have another new format?

And it seems the powers that be are at it again, introducing not one but two new digital audio formats. The cynics among us will see this as another way to get us to buy more audio equipment and purchase our favourite albums, yet again. However, both new formats address one of the big problems with the original CD technology: it wasn't close enough to an analogue signal to satisfy many audiophiles.

With all digital audio formats, sound is represented by ones and zeros. With enough zeros and ones per second, you get a very good approximation of an analogue waveform. However, even though digital audio players feature digital-to-analogue converters, audiophiles argue that the resulting signal is too coarse, causing "listening fatigue." This is considered an issue especially with very high-frequency or low frequency sounds, or very low-volume sounds, which can be distorted by lower digital sampling rates. To combat these problems, a higher-definition format was necessary.

Enter DVD Audio and Super Audio CD.

These competing formats are both designed to increase the definition of digital audio so playback is closer to analogue. The standard CD features a sampling rate of 44.1 kHz and 16 bits. DVD Audio bumps that up to 192 kHz and 24 bits. Super Audio CD (SACD) is a bit more interesting because it employs Direct Stream Digital, which uses 1-bit processing but a 2.8224 MHz sampling rate, which works out to about seven times the definition of standard CD.

In addition to the higher-quality sound, there are other benefits: while being remastered for this new format, many of the discs have also been remixed for 5.1-surround sound, as well as the standard two-channel version, and the discs themselves can have track information — track title and composer, for example — right on them so you don't need the case to figure out what song is playing.

### Which format is for you?

Both formats have been around for some time in limited ways. It's only recently, though, that disc and player manufacturers have started to push them into the mainstream. Unfortunately, with both being hyped at the same time, it means another format war, and confusion all around.

It's probably worth getting this out of the way first. If your home entertainment system doesn't have an excellent receiver/amplifier and speaker combination, you may not notice any difference between these new formats and your trusty old CDs. And, if you always have to listen to your music at low volume, there's little incentive to upgrade.

But if you have good quality equipment (and a surround sound receiver, as both formats are compatible with 5.1 digital surround), it's time to figure out which format will work best for you.

DVD Audio may be the most natural fit for most, for several reasons. Many people already have a home theatre setup that includes a good receiver and speakers. Since DVD Audio players also double as DVD Video players, this format will fit into an existing home theatre setup nicely. The players handle movies, DVD Audio, and standard CDs. Even better, many DVD players that handle DVD Video and DVD Audio are only marginally more expensive than similarly featured players that are only DVD Video compatible.

Those who are very picky about sound reproduction may lean toward SACD because of its Direct Stream Digital capabilities. As with other audiophile-favoured technology, many dedicated SACD players are very expensive (at this point, several thousand dollars). Also, the players can weigh a lot: the Sony model we looked at weighed 20 kg.

If you're not a dedicated audiophile but want to step up to the next level, you may not even have to

Continued on page 29

## Players

**Panasonic DVD-F85 (www.panasonic.ca), $380**

The ultra-slim DVD-F85 has a five-disc carousel and plays several formats: DVD Video, DVD Audio, DVD Video RAM, standard CD audio, MP3 CDs, and discs with Windows Media files or JPEG images. It has individual audio outputs for all six channels of 5.1 surround, as well as a separate two-channel audio output and optical SPDIF out. It can connect to your display using composite video, S-Video, or 480I/480P component video output. Both the audio and picture are very good. It's an affordable way to add high-definition audio to your home theatre. The single-disc DVD-S55 is $300.

**Sony SCDXA777ES (www.sonystyle.ca), $4,500**

At this price, this SACD player isn't for everyone, but audiophiles will like it a lot. It's a single disc model, featuring multiple-channel output for hooking to the receiver in your 5.1 system, no further decoding required. It also has standard stereo output for old two-channel recordings, as well as optical and coaxial SPDIF outputs. You can choose stereo or multi-channel output and even select which layer of an SACD to play if you are using a hybrid disc. Its anti-vibration plate means it weighs in at 20 kg, so don't place it onto a glass shelf! The sound, of course, is amazing. One complaint: it switches between two- and multi-channel output depending on the media, so you may not always hear audio until either the receiver or player is set to the proper settings.

## How many people are banking online?

53 percent of Canadians with an Internet connection (73 percent of all adults) have done at least one online banking transaction - Ipsos-Reid Corp

17 percent of Americans have used online banking and it will grow at about 14 percent (annually) to 2007 when 30 percent of Americans (that's all Americans not just adults) or 67 million people will be online - Gartner Group

Our online usage has grown by approximately 20 percent in the past year alone - Pierre Burns, VanCity Credit Union

There are currently 2.3 million online customers at Royal Bank alone Tom Wolfe RBC Financial Group

Our guess Based on the information above and data from Statistics Canada, eight to 10 million Canadians have performed an online banking function

# Digital dollars

## *Online banking in Canada hits its stride*

It's become an old saw in technology that when it comes to the effects of innovation, we excitedly overestimate the short term and then promptly underestimate the long term.

### The overestimation phase

In the mid '90s, when online banking was in its infancy, pundits foresaw the end of tellers, if not the actual bank branches themselves. Think of the savings The banks got excited With online banking augmenting the evolving telephone banking offerings and the proliferation of ATMs, it seemed we were on the edge of a Jetsons world.

Today, Canadian financial institutions downplay the "death of bricks and mortar" angle.

According to Pierre Burns, the manager of direct services for the VanCity Credit Union, the late '90s saw the move of customer services from the physical branches to online and automated options.

"But now," says Burns, "the pendulum has swung back dramatically as institutions realize the importance of the branch and for customer-centric institutions to be as channel neutral as possible " Translation. it doesn't matter if you use the ATM, the phone, the Net, or want to walk in and jaw awhile, you should get the same great service.

### The underestimation phase

Millions of Canadians now sit down at a computer and pay bills or check their bank balances each week, but the tellers are still at the branch offices and telephone banking is still popular This is the underestimation phase banking is changing fundamentally but it's like watching your hair grow — tough to see There are small developments that presage a continued move from bank-centric to customer-centric services that will, in the long term, make the old paper-based banking seem quaint, slow, and blind

Continued on page 29

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# Online gaming moves to bigger small screen

*New options move gamers from desktop to TV*

In the early days of video games, the consoles that turn TVs into game systems shipped with euphemistically labelled "expansion ports." This filled gamers' heads with visions of potential add ons that would expand the functionality of their chosen console, but nothing ever seemed to materialize, at least not in North America.

Thankfully for gamers with a penchant for online play, the days of the little-used expansion ports faded with the introduction of online adapters. It started with the now-defunct Sega Dreamcast (www.sega.com), which started to ship with a dial-up modem as standard equipment in 1999.

Projections for wide acceptance of online console gaming stretch as far into the future as 2006, when, according to Jupiter Media Metrix, revenues could reach $250 million. To date, online console gaming has yet to prove itself as anything other than a digital money pit for manufacturers and developers. Despite this, they forge on. Here's what they've been up to lately.

Xbox: Microsoft is, arguably, leading the charge toward the connected console living room, promising that Microsoft games released from 2003 onward will have some form of Xbox Live capability: downloadable levels, online stats keeping and score reporting, or actual online play.

Connecting gamers online makes up a large part of Microsoft's plans for Xbox (www.xbox.com/ca). At a press briefing in May, chief Xbox officer Robbie Bach said "Xbox is ready to inspire this industry to expand by connecting people with more games, more community, and more varieties of entertainment, more of the time." He also unveiled plans for XSN, the Xbox Sports Network where all Xbox's own sports games will allow gamers to play each other, organize tournaments and playoffs, make player trades, and report stats and more online.

Xbox Live is the only online initiative that requires gamers to pay a monthly fee. While one year of service is included in the price of the Xbox Live Starter Kit ($69.99), subsequent years cost $79.99 each.

PS2: Sony is pushing toward offering online games without a monthly charge, but in doing so leaves the door open for developers to charge their own fees. The first PS2 (www.scea.com) game to charge a monthly fee was EverQuest Online Adventures, the console incarnation of the hugely popular PC online role playing game.

At a Sony press briefing, the company unveiled some of its upcoming online titles, including an exclusivity deal with Electronic Arts, the top console video game publisher, which is renowned for its sports titles. Under this deal, only those using the PS2 console will be able to play EA sports titles online, leaving GameCube and Xbox players out of the loop.

Other online games in the works include SOCOM US Navy SEALs 2, which has built the largest community of any online console game.

GameCube: Despite its competitors' plans, Nintendo (www.nintendo.com) is still testing the online console gaming waters. "We just haven't seen [the viability] yet," said Lesley Short, communications manager for Nintendo Canada, "but, if a developer comes to us saying they want to create an online game for the GameCube, we'll work with them."

As it stands, there is currently only one online title for the GameCube, Sega's Phantasy Star Online Volume 1&2. Essentially, gamers looking for an online experience won't find much on the GameCube, as Nintendo is focussing on other forms of connectivity, like the Game Boy Advance-GameCube compatibility.

By Andrew Moore-Crispin

## Wired for wireless

Anyone with a videogame system will attest to the potential bird's nest of wires, cords, and cables that go with it. Online console gaming potentially adds one more length of wire to the mix, namely an Ethernet cable running from a broadband router, located in a home office or similar, to the back of the console.

Recently, a number of manufacturers have jumped on the online console gaming bandwagon, releasing adapters that can connect wirelessly to an existing WiFi home network.

Linksys (www.linksys.com) released its Wireless-B Game Adapter for either the Xbox or PS2 and CanDyne (www.candyne.com) has separately branded PS2 and Xbox wireless adapters.

In both tests, basic setup was pretty simple using a Microsoft WiFi router. The CanDyne adapters needed only to be plugged in, connected, and given a few minutes to work while the Linksys adapter required a few button presses to select a channel and a switch flipped, telling it whether the connection was straight through or a crossover. Both adapters require that users run a connection utility on the PC to find and connect with the wireless router.

While the 802.11b wireless standard used by both adapters is slower than a direct Ethernet cable connection to a wired router it presented no problems or longer than usual lag in online game play.

## PC game reviews

| Flight Simulator 2004: A Century of Flight | F1 Challenge '99-'02 | Tron 2.0 |
|---|---|---|
| Celebrating 100 years of flight this Microsoft simulation lets you fly the Wright Flyer, other historical aircraft, 747s, and Learjets. | Electronic Arts has said this is its last Formula 1 race simulation. It's a good one, featuring drivers, cars, teams and circuits from four years of wheel-to-wheel racing. | Twenty years after the movie comes the sequel as a game. Visually stunning — a great twist on a story-driven adventure game.<br>**Read the full game reviews: www.hubcanada.com/games** |

continued from page 26

**The next revolution**

choose sides. Because both formats use the same size and basic form factor as the standard CD or DVD Video, and because both use a DVD style media (when it comes to reading it with the laser, that is), the formats are more compatible than you'd think

No, you can't play DVD Audio discs on an SACD player, and you can't play the SACD layer of a Super Audio CD on your DVD Audio player, but you can buy players that will decode both formats As we go to press, Sony, Philips, and Pioneer are releasing dual-format players Even better these players are nowhere near as expensive as audiophile-level SACD stand-alone players — granted, the audio decoding quality isn't at the same level either but for the less discriminating listener, it s a great choice

By Sean Carruthers

Digital Dollars continued from page 27

**Today**

Today, with one online institution or another you can find the following services

Cheque imaging Cheque items listed on your online transaction record are links. Clicking the link shows you a scanned image of the cheque Click Back to see the back side of the cheque and who endorsed it.

Electronic statements: The paper based statement that arrives in the mail is old news. Some institutions are saving the price of paper and postage with online statements

Credit card balance Why call a 1-800 number and go through all those menu choices when most banks and credit unions allow you to check your card activity online? (You must use a card authorized by the institution, of course.)

Email alerts: Some banks and credit unions allow you to set up your online account to email your computer or cell phone when your balance falls below a certain amount or when an expected deposit is made

Credit check This service allows you to check your credit history on your institution's site. Particularly important to guard against identity theft.

Cell phone banking. It's available but not ready for prime time, according to banks we talked to

**The future**

Have you noticed the disappearance of paper? When was the last time you used a stamp to pay a bill? What about filling out a deposit slip? Heck, what about paper money?

Many people are paid by their employers via direct deposit We spend using debit cards We go online to pay bills that we may receive electronically We look at the balances of our accounts, credit cards, and even RRSPs online and move money where needed At the end of the year we do our taxes on the computer, efile, then wait for our refunds, which are also deposited electronically

If old banking looks quaint now, in the future we'll be amazed that there was a day back in the first decade of the 21st century, long before biometrics made its big splash in banking, when the movement of money was all based on passwords and plastic cards Amazing.

By Rod Lamirand

for more information on High Definition Audio, and what the music labels are up to go to www.hubcanada.com/audio/highdef

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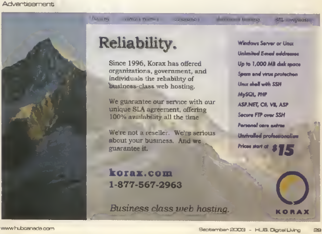

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**Andy Walker**

# Rough cuts

## *Portable video players suffer first-generation glitches*

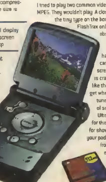
Take your video, your pictures, and your audio files with you and play them on the bus on a device the size of a can of sardines. Yeah, here comes the mobile multimedia player.

Don't get too sweaty about them though, because they're raw, expensive, and still rare in Canada The marketing nerds here in the U.S have been making a stink about them of late, but so far I've been unimpressed

These little devices — made by companies like Panasonic, Samsung, SmartDisk, and Archos — are handheld video and audio players that have onboard hard disks Some also have data card readers, so they can store and play large multimedia files, like movies, songs, and picture slideshows

I spent some time with an early product in this category, the SmartDisk FlashTrax. It's not available in Canada yet, but that's actually a good thing. The device is about half-the size of a paperback book and has a 3 5-inch screen that flips open to reveal VCR-like controls To get data onto the 30 GB device you can attach a USB 2 0 cable and drag and drop files from your computer's desktop

I successfully displayed pictures from a digital camera on the device I wasn't so lucky with video. I tried to play two common video types: AVI and MPEG They wouldn't play A closer inspection of the tiny type on the box says the FlashTrax only supports the obscure "Motion JPEG" format



Then again, perhaps I don't really care The colour LCD screen on this device is crappy It sort of looks like the video image you get when you can't quite tune in your TV — kind of snowy

Ultimately the only use for this device is perhaps for showing your grandma your paddle-pool pictures from your digital camera and only if she has her glasses handy MP3 files played fine, but again, this

is only worthwhile if you have a pair of headphones or a decent set of speakers to plug it into. The onboard speaker has all the fidelity of those public announcements on the local transit system In short, this product, at US$499, is a disaster

Now that doesn't mean future versions won't improve or that competing products aren't better Perhaps they are, but I doubt you'll be thrilled by these devices just yet High quality video screens on mobile devices are power hungry and the technology is just not there yet to offer good video, great battery life, and, most importantly, an affordable price

One company that appears to be getting good ink in this category is Archos It has a line of video-capable gadgets called the Video AV300 series The Sony Walkman-sized gadget has a built-in 3 8 inch colour display and hard drive A series of accessories is available that can turn it into a digital video recorder so you can slurp video from a TV The US$599 device — which isn't available yet in Canada — also has an optional camera attachment. The device also has an FM tuner and recorder accessory

It sounds like a winner Then again so did the FlashTrax when I first heard about it The reality is that these are first-generation devices, and they are going to have first-generation problems But as screens get better — and they will especially with the forthcoming OLED technology — you're going to be able to put a multimedia powerhouse in the palm of your hand

For now, put your money there and clench it shut.

**Andy Walker is a Canadian journalist based in California.**

### Definitions

**USB 2.0:** A wired data transfer technology that can move 25 MP3 songs between a computer and a gadget in less than a second

**MPEG:** A common type of movie file format There are two common types MPEG-2 and the newer MPEG-4 format

**AVI:** A Microsoft movie file format

**MP3:** A near CD-quality audio file, used to store music.

**JPEG:** A picture and movie data file that uses compression so that the file size is small

**LCD.** Liquid crystal display This is the kind of screen you have on a laptop

**OLED:** Organic Light Emitting Diode A new ultra-thin low-powered screen technology due out in 2004 in mobile gadgets

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